

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



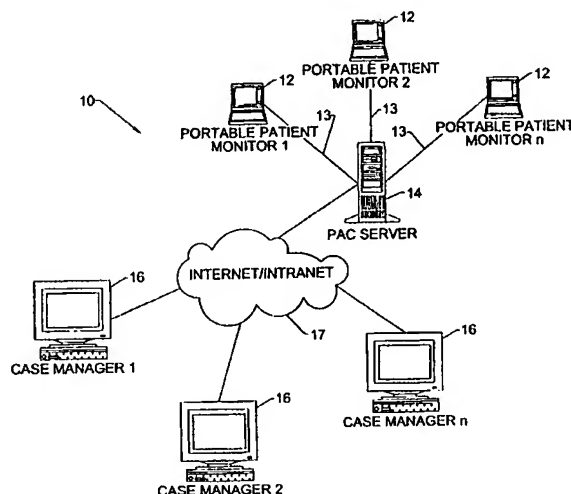
(43) International Publication Date  
19 July 2001 (19.07.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/50950 A2**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61B 5/00**
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/US01/00789**
- (22) International Filing Date: 10 January 2001 (10.01.2001)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
09/480,432 11 January 2000 (11.01.2000) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):  
**HEALTHWARE CORPORATION** [US/US]; 3804 Sweeten Creek Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SURWIT, Richard, S.** [US/US]; 3804 Sweeten Creek Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (US). **ALLEN, Lyle, M., III** [US/US]; 3937 Nottaway Road, Durham, NC 27707 (US). **ORTEL, Thomas, Lee** [US/US]; 200 Gattis, #013, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (US). **MORRIS, James, J.** [US/US]; 3920 Plymouth Road, Durham, NC 27707 (US).
- (74) Agent: **MYERS, BIGEL, SIBLEY & SAJOVEC, P.A.**; P.O. Box 37428, Raleigh, NC 27627 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AF, AG, AI, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**  
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR MONITORING AND MODIFYING ANTICOAGULATION THERAPY OF REMOTELY LOCATED PATIENTS



(57) Abstract: A patient apparatus is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with anticoagulation medication and self-test coagulation regimens related to anticoagulation therapy. In addition, a patient apparatus is configured to receive data from a patient, including physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and/or behavioral data. Utilizing the received patient data, a patient apparatus can modify a warfarin regimen using an algorithm contained within the apparatus. The apparatus can communicate the modified warfarin regimen to the patient and to third parties, such as remotely located healthcare providers. In addition, the apparatus can prompt a patient when to perform a self-test and can prompt a patient to seek immediate medical attention, or to directly contact medical help, when so warranted.

## APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR MONITORING AND MODIFYING ANTICOAGULATION THERAPY OF REMOTELY LOCATED PATIENTS

### Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to data processing apparatus and methods and, more particularly, to medical monitoring apparatus and systems.

5

### Background of the Invention

Chronic disease management conventionally involves routinely monitoring patients who suffer from chronic disease to identify disease-related health problems before they become medically severe. Routine monitoring is also required in patients undergoing various forms of rehabilitation or primary prevention such as programs designed to promote healthy diet and exercise behavior. Disease management and prevention may also involve monitoring exercise and diet patterns of patients, as well as adherence to and adjustments of prescribed medicine. The management of chronic disease also often involves continuous treatment of a disease

10

15

process with one or more medicines. Many of these medications have a relatively narrow therapeutic window; that is, there is a narrow range of medication dosages that provide optimal therapeutic effect without  
5 producing undesirable and potentially dangerous side effects. Other, often behavioral, factors such as illness, or changes in sleep, vitamins, diet, exercise, stress, menstrual cycles, etc. can impact the efficacy, absorption, dissipation, bioavailability and hence  
10 optimal dosing requirements of medication.

Additionally, due to comorbid or co-occurring diseases or intercurrent illness, there are risks related to potential medication interactions that can also affect the efficacy dosing requirements of one or more of the  
15 medications used in treatment. Ideally, the effects of medication should be continuously monitored in order to insure that the patient is deriving maximal therapeutic benefit without suffering the effects of overmedication or from potentially dangerous interactions.

20 Most patient assessment of the efficacy of self-administered treatment programs such as medication regimens, rehabilitative recovery or primary prevention occurs in the offices of healthcare professionals. Unfortunately this is both time-consuming and  
25 expensive, and can only partially deal with issues related to timeliness and compliance. To overcome the disadvantages of requiring patients to visit a physician's office for assessment of their disease or condition, various health care organizations have  
30 implemented programs where case managers (i.e., persons

with some level of medical training) telephone patients periodically to obtain patient data and to coordinate care. Unfortunately, with often hundreds of patients per case manager, personal contact with individual patients on a daily or even regular basis may be difficult. In addition, personal contact with individual patients on a regular basis may be somewhat expensive. Accordingly, case managers using conventional management techniques may not be able to monitor, adjust or promote a patient's medication dosage or other treatment regimen as often as desirable or necessary.

Another approach used in chronic disease management involves automated voice messaging (AVM) services, wherein patients receive regular telephone calls providing various educational and motivational messages from case managers. Exemplary messages may include reminding a patient of a scheduled physician visit. Some AVM services involve one-way communication, wherein a recorded message is delivered to a patient, but no information is obtained from the patient. As a result, the medical condition of a patient may not be available unless the patient is examined in-person by a physician.

AVM services involving two-way communications may allow patients to respond to AVM telephone queries via a touch tone telephone. Information received from patients may be reviewed by a case manager (CM). The CM then may identify which patients require callbacks for gathering more detailed information, discussing



problems, or providing further information.

Unfortunately, AVM services involving two-way communications may require some level of human intervention to identify patients with medically severe conditions that require immediate medical attention, such as a change in warfarin or insulin dosage. Chronic disease management via AVM has another drawback in that delays may occur between the identification of a patient with a medically severe condition and actual treatment of the condition.

In order to assist the physician and CM in following a patient with chronic disease, home monitoring devices have been developed and marketed that can collect physiologic data and report this data back to the physician. Examples of such devices include home blood glucose monitors, home blood pressure monitors, home peak-flow monitors for asthma, and home coagulation time monitors for patients undergoing anticoagulation therapy. While these systems can collect physiologic data at home, they do not provide direct guidance to the patient on need changes in chronic medication dosing. They also do not provide a convenient way for physicians to use the data generated to cost-effectively manage patients.

In addition to case managers, AVMs, and home diagnostic devices, several systems have been devised that collect disease-related data at home and transmit them to a central location where the data can be analyzed by a physician or other healthcare professionals. Such systems include DiabCare (Roche

Diagnostics), The Buddy System, Health Hero, and LifeChart. Some of these systems directly interface with home physiologic monitors (e.g., DiabCare and LifeChart) as described above. However, all of these systems simply collect data from remotely-located patients and present the data in summary form. They do not attempt to help the physician or health care provider prioritize patients in need of attention, recommend actions to ameliorate the patient's condition, or give information back to the patient about what he or she should do in the event the a change in the therapy regimen is indicated.

One system that has attempted to automate disease management for insulin therapy in diabetes mellitus is the Diacare® System, described in U.S. Patent No. 4,731,726. Unfortunately, the Diacare® System is narrowly focused on treating diabetic patients using insulin, and lacks many of the important features of a system that would be necessary for delivering a wide variety of interventions in a number of medical diseases or conditions such as anticoagulation therapy.

Warfarin and other anticoagulant therapies are indicated for conditions involving the increased likelihood of fibrin clot (thrombosis). These thromboses may increase the likelihood of stroke, myocardial infarctions or other cardiovascular events. Anticoagulant therapies interfere with or decrease the ability of the body to form a fibrin clot (thrombosis). Since under-medication can result in a thrombosis, and

overmedication can result in potentially disastrous hemorrhagic complications, all of these therapies need to be very closely monitored. Examples of these therapies and the types of tests used to monitor them are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1 - Anticoagulation Therapies & Tests

THERAPY	TEST
Warfarin and other vitamin K antagonists	Prothrombin (PT)
Heparin and similar glucosaminoglycans	Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT)
	Activated Clotting Time (ACT)
	Specific heparin or low low molecular weight heparin assays
Direct thrombin inhibitors (e.g., hirutin, melagatgran)	Ecarin clotting time (ECT)
	Thrombin clotting time
	PT or PTT

PT or other coagulation tests (listed in Table 1) and regular visits to the physician or clinic are needed to monitor anticoagulation therapy. Anticoagulation therapy is a highly individualized matter that should be monitored closely. Numerous factors, alone or in combination, including travel, changes in diet, environment, physical state and medication may influence response of a patient to anticoagulants. As such, anticoagulant dosage should be controlled by periodic determinations of prothrombin time (PT)/International Normalized Ratio (INR) or other suitable coagulation tests.

Coagulation tests and regular visits to the physician or clinic are typically required to

effectively monitor anticoagulation therapy.

Unfortunately, regular visits to a physician or clinic can be expensive and inconvenient. In addition,

5 patients may be required to attend training prior to being allowed to self-administer medication and testing regimens. Such training may be too complex and/or cost-prohibitive for many patients.

### Summary of the Invention

10 In view of the above discussion, it is an object of the present invention to provide apparatus and methods that allow patients to remotely self-monitor disease therapy, such as anticoagulation or other therapies that can be optimized (i.e., deliver  
15 maximum therapeutic benefit in the most cost-effective way with minimal side effects and complications by close monitoring, and that can modify medication regimens without requiring a patient to visit a healthcare provider.

20 It is another object of the present invention to allow health care providers to quickly and easily monitor many patients and to automatically identify patients with medical conditions that are pertinent to ongoing therapies and to organize identified medical  
25 conditions by severity.

These and other objects of the present invention are provided by apparatus and methods that allow a patient to self-monitor disease therapy and other potentially important variables without requiring  
30 the patient to visit a healthcare provider. In this

way, the effects of medication can be more frequently assessed. Both sub-therapeutic dosing (under-dosing of medication) and supra-therapeutic dosing (over-dosing of medication) can be detected and rapidly ameliorated.

5 Both sub-therapeutic and supra-therapeutic dosing may be associated with acute morbidity and mortality. Sub-therapeutic dosing can allow the underlying disease process out of control, while supra-therapeutic dosing is often associated with intolerable side effects which

10 in some cases can be dangerous or toxic. Furthermore, dosing requirements may change due to a variety of factors and cannot be assumed to remain constant.

According to one embodiment of the present invention, anticoagulation therapy is indicated for

15 such diseases such as atrial fibrillation, deep venous thrombosis, and thrombosis secondary to prosthetic heart value replacement. Other medical diseases or conditions that can be managed using these methods include seizure disorders, attention deficit

20 hyperactivity disorder, cancer therapies and palliative treatments, pain control, renal dysfunction, various forms of depression including manic depression, high blood pressure, asthma, physical rehabilitation following injury, surgery or stroke, cardiovascular

25 conditioning in cardiac rehabilitation, primary prevention and wellness promotion in at-risk groups, can all be monitored and prescriptively controlled via a remote and preferably portable apparatus. Typically, disease therapy (also referred to as chronic disease

30 management) includes a medication regimen (e.g.,

warfarin for anticoagulation therapy, lithium or Depakote® (Divalproex Sodium, Abbott Labs) medication for manic depression, Depakene® (valproic acid, Abbott Labs) or Tegretol® (carbamazepine USP; Basel Pharmaceuticals) for seizure disorders, Ritalin® (methylphenidate hydrochloride USP; CIBA Pharmaceuticals) for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or G-CSF (granulocyte colony stimulating factor) or erythropoietin (a hormone manufactured primarily in the kidneys which stimulates red blood cell production) for cancer chemotherapy patients, L-dopa therapy in Parkinson's Disease, and test regimens for monitoring the efficacy or toxicity of the medication dosing regimen. In rehabilitation and wellness promotion the prescription may include exercises and assessment could involve measurement of physical conditioning, range of motion, strength, endurance, rigidity, fine motor control, tremors, and the like. These can be monitored remotely and algorithmically adjusted using prescribed software routines. Exemplary test regimens for diseases include prothrombin time (PT) test for anticoagulation, white blood cell count in cancer chemotherapy patients, potassium or bicarbonate in patients with renal failure, blood pressure in hypertension, heart rate recovering in physical conditioning, depression rating scores or neuropsychological test performance in depression, and pain rating scales in chronic pain, for example.

30                   A patient apparatus (i.e., an apparatus

utilized by a patient according to the present invention) is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with medication and test regimens. A patient apparatus  
5 according to the present invention is also configured to receive information or data from a patient concerning supra-therapeutic and sub-therapeutic conditions, signs, symptoms or test results. This same patient apparatus may also be configured to obtain data  
10 from the patient on factors which could impact ongoing therapies, such as data concerning diet, exercise, sleep, stress, illness, vitamin and other medication usage. The type of data which the patient apparatus may receive from a patient could include, but would not  
15 be limited to, physiological, pathophysiological, biological, psychological, neuropsychological (cognitive performance), behavioral data and/or specific knowledge assessments. For example, a patient can provide information or data regarding mood status,  
20 reaction times, tasks measuring divided attention or concentration, or symptoms the patient may be experiencing, along with changes in diet, exercise, stress or other medications.

A patient apparatus according to the present  
25 invention can also actively promote compliance with the prescribed treatment regimens using alarm-based initiation of routines which prompt the patient to initiate self-assessment or self-treatment protocols. Software routines in the device or managed through the  
30 device and initiated via hardware alarms or

communications from remotely connected devices, servers or services can engage the patient in creative ways and help maintain motivation, initiation and completion of self-care regimens.

5                   Utilizing the received patient data, a patient apparatus can modify a medication regimen using an algorithm contained within the apparatus. The apparatus can communicate the modified medication regimen to the patient and to third parties, such as  
10                   remotely located healthcare providers. The apparatus can prompt a patient when to perform various types of self-assessments and home self-testing to provide data, directed towards monitoring the efficacy of a medication. In addition, the apparatus can prompt a  
15                   patient to seek medical attention when so warranted. A patient apparatus according to the present invention can also automatically communicate patient information to a healthcare provider (or other third party) if the patient apparatus determines that symptoms that a  
20                   patient is experiencing are above a severity threshold level.

                  According to another embodiment of the present invention, a patient apparatus for monitoring and modifying disease therapy can communicate directly  
25                   with a remotely located data processing system that is configured to analyze data transmitted from the patient apparatus substantially simultaneously with the transmission thereof to identify emergency medical conditions requiring immediate medical attention. In  
30                   response to identifying an emergency medical condition,



treatment information may be automatically communicated to the respective patient apparatus while communications are still established.

5       The present invention provides a generic tool for automating the management of therapies for many chronic diseases, medical conditions or primary preventative interventions. A patient apparatus according to the present invention is ideally suited for conditions in which medication or other self-

10       administered treatments are systematically administered and whose effects should be closely monitored, in order to maximize therapeutic benefit and minimize the risks of overmedication or other over-treatment. However, it can also significantly improve the cost effectiveness

15       of delivering and assessing educational, rehabilitative and primary prevention programs in the patient's home environment. This invention involves the establishment of a remote electronic link between patient and caregiver, wherein the patient provides various types

20       of assessment data and receives individualized interventions. Most patient interventions provided by this system will can be algorithmically programmed to automatically recommend individualized medication or other treatment changes in real time, or following

25       communication with a remote computer system which is configured by the healthcare provider for patients. Besides providing access to these automated adjustment parameters, the healthcare provider's electronic interface contains powerful tools for assessing patient

30       progress, prioritizing problems and screening for

emergency conditions. The present invention is well suited for self-care regimens involving medications with a narrow therapeutic window, and will be thoroughly and primarily described throughout this disclosure with respect to the control of patients  
5 undergoing anticoagulation therapy. However, the potential applications for this system are broader and can apply to the control of other medications and/or interventions used in the prevention or treatment of  
10 other diseases.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 schematically illustrates a system for monitoring, diagnosing and treating medical conditions  
15 of a plurality of remotely located patients according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 illustrates an exemplary portable patient monitor (PPM).

Fig. 3 schematically illustrates operations  
20 for monitoring, diagnosing and treating medical conditions of a plurality of remotely located patients according to the present invention.

Fig. 4 schematically illustrates operations  
for obtaining data from a remotely located patient  
25 monitoring device.

Fig. 5 schematically illustrates operations for analyzing data to identify medical conditions of a remotely located patient.

Fig. 6 schematically illustrates operations for identifying medical conditions according to aspects of the present invention.

5 Fig. 7 schematically illustrates operations for prioritizing identified medical conditions according to aspects of the present invention.

Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary user interface for displaying medical conditions prioritized according to medical severity.

10 Fig. 9 illustrates an exemplary user interface for displaying patient-specific information.

Figs. 10A-10C illustrate exemplary user interfaces for facilitating communications with a remotely located patient.

15 Fig. 11 illustrates an exemplary user interface for adjusting a medicine dosage algorithm stored within a patient's PPM.

Fig. 12 illustrates an exemplary user interface for seeking input from other medical experts.

20 Fig. 13 illustrates an exemplary user interface for facilitating and tracking patient appointments with clinic personnel or other health care providers.

Fig. 14 illustrates an exemplary user interface for removing an identified medical condition from an active list.

25 Figs. 15-19 schematically illustrate operations for monitoring anticoagulation therapy via a patient apparatus according to one embodiment of the present invention.

30

### Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention now is described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout.

As will be appreciated by one of skill in the art, the present invention may be embodied as a method, data processing system, or computer program product. Accordingly, the present invention may take the form of an entirely hardware embodiment, an entirely software embodiment or an embodiment combining software and hardware aspects. Furthermore, the present invention may take the form of a computer program product on a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code means embodied in the medium. Any suitable computer medium may be utilized including hard disks, CD-ROMs, optical storage devices, or magnetic storage devices.

The present invention is described below with

reference to flowchart illustrations of methods,  
apparatus (systems) and computer program products  
according to embodiments of the invention. It will be  
understood that each block of the flowchart  
5 illustrations, and combinations of blocks in the  
flowchart illustrations, can be implemented by computer  
program instructions. These computer program  
instructions may be loaded onto a general purpose  
computer, special purpose computer, or other  
10 programmable data processing apparatus to produce a  
machine, such that the instructions which execute on  
the computer or other programmable data processing  
apparatus create means for implementing the functions  
specified in the flowchart block or blocks.

15               These computer program instructions may also  
be stored in a computer-usable memory that can direct a  
computer or other programmable data processing  
apparatus to function in a particular manner, such that  
the instructions stored in the computer-usable memory  
20 produce an article of manufacture including instruction  
means which implement the function specified in the  
flowchart block or blocks. The computer program  
instructions may also be loaded onto a computer or  
other programmable data processing apparatus to cause a  
25 series of operational steps to be performed on the  
computer or other programmable apparatus to produce a  
computer implemented process such that the instructions  
which execute on the computer or other programmable  
apparatus provide steps for implementing the functions  
30 specified in the flowchart block or blocks.

Accordingly, blocks of the flowchart illustrations support combinations of means for performing the specified functions, combinations of steps for performing the specified functions and  
5 program instruction means for performing the specified functions. It will also be understood that each block of the flowchart illustrations, and combinations of blocks in the flowchart illustrations, can be implemented by special purpose hardware-based computer  
10 systems which perform the specified functions or steps, or combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions.

Computer program for implementing the present invention may be written in various object-oriented  
15 programming languages, such as Delphi and Java®. However, it is understood that other object oriented programming languages, such as C++ and Smalltalk, as well as conventional programming languages, such as FORTRAN or COBOL, could be utilized without departing  
20 from the spirit and intent of the present invention.

#### System Overview

Referring now to Fig. 1, a system 10 for monitoring, diagnosing, and treating medical conditions  
25 of remotely located patients with various chronic illnesses, according to the present invention, is schematically illustrated. A plurality of remote or preferably portable patient monitors (PPMs) 12 are configured to establish communications directly with a  
30 central data processing system referred to as a

Physicians Access Center server (hereinafter "PAC server") 14 via communications links 13. It is noted that a majority of the functionality provided by a PPM as described herein for many disease applications can be achieved using remote data terminals or internet browsers, which are not necessarily portable, but which can provide personal healthcare advice via connection to a properly configured database server system that supports the features of a PPM described below.

A plurality of case manager clients (CMCs) 16 are configured to establish client-server communications with the PAC server 14 via a computer network 17, such as the Internet or an Intranet. The term "CMC" can be considered as a synonym for professional or paraprofessional healthcare providers. It is understood that a CMC or PAC server or other apparatus configured to execute program code embodied within computer usable media, operates as means for performing the various functions and carries out the methods of the various operations of the present invention. It is also understood that the present invention may be used with various client-server communications protocols, and is not limited to specific protocols such as TCP/IP protocol.

Each of these components will be described in detail below. The present invention will be described throughout this disclosure with respect to the control of warfarin therapy for patients undergoing anticoagulation therapy. However, it is to be understood that the present invention may be utilized

with a wide variety of medical therapies including, but not limited to, antiseizure therapy, cancer chemotherapy, renal failure therapy, congestive heart failure therapy, asthma therapy, high blood pressure therapy, attention deficit disorder therapy, depression therapy, and therapies for other chronic diseases and conditions.

For example a PPM may collect and use patient data to adjust medication dosage for respiratory therapy and anticoagulation therapy based on predefined physician prescriptions. The term "prescription" may include physician-prescribed algorithms for calculating medicine dosages, dosages calculated from algorithms, and fixed and contingent self-monitoring schedules for patients. An exemplary physician-prescribed medication algorithm is described in Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Asthma; Expert Panel Report Two; National Institutes of Health; Heart and Lung Institute; Publication No.: 97-4051, April 1997, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Another exemplary physician-prescribed medication algorithm is described in Long-term Patient Self-management of Oral Anticoagulation; Jack E. Ansell et al.; Arch Intern Med. 1995; Vol. 155; pp. 2185-2189; which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

A PPM may incorporate physician-prescribed algorithms for calculating medicine dosages for various chronic illnesses. Alternatively, a PAC server may implement a medication dosage algorithm for



anticoagulation therapy, based on values communicated to the PAC server by a PPM, and communicate results directly to the patient. PAC server implemented dosage algorithms may be a logical alternative to having medication dosage algorithms stored within PPMs when medication dosage changes are infrequent.

#### Remote or Portable Patient Monitors (PPM)

A PPM (12 in Fig. 1) serves as primary means for collecting data from a patient and as means for case managers to interface with a patient. Exemplary features of a PPM for use in accordance with the present invention are summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2

- Small and portable so patient can carry around.
- Data processing capabilities and built-in modem or attachable external modem.
- Collects data from blood, breath or bodily fluids or other functions.
- Collects patient supplied data on health status, compliance with a medical treatment or management regimen, and psychological data.
- Allows two-way communication with PAC server.
- Analyzes patient data collected and delivers pre-recorded or calculated responses and/or medication dosage recommendations based on physician instructions loaded in PPM.
- Downloads patient data to PAC server at specified time intervals or in real time.
- Receives messages, updates to physician instructions and prescription dosage parameters, dosage algorithms, fixed or contingent self-monitoring schedules, words of encouragement or other feedback from PAC server.

Patient data collected via a PPM may include physiologic or biologic data and behavioral data (e.g., assessments related to diet, exercise, stress, mental status or the presence of intercurrent illness). A PPM  
5 may also monitor patient medication intake (e.g., warfarin dosage). A PPM, depending on the chronic illness of the patient, may contain software specifically designed for a particular patient's illness. For example, a PPM for an anticoagulation  
10 therapy patient may contain physician-prescribed warfarin dosage algorithms. It is understood that other medications, well known by those of skill in the art, may be utilized in anticoagulation therapy in addition to, or in lieu of, warfarin.

15 A PPM designed for a patient can store various data along with other relevant self-monitoring patient data. Blood from a pricked finger may be read on a chemically treated strip via the PPM. Automated warfarin adjustment algorithms with physician-  
20 prescribed parameters can be stored within each patient's PPM for real-time analysis and adjustment of a patient's warfarin dosage. The PPM may be configured to make automatic adjustments to a patient's self-monitoring and treatment regimen based on patient-  
25 entered data as will be described below. A PPM may also contain a database to help patients evaluate the effects of new medications on their target disease or to provide other disease-specific information to patients.

With respect to medications, the term "regimen" is intended to be synonymous with a schedule for taking medication. However, it is understood that some medications are taken in different doses on different days (or other time periods). Thus, the term "regimen" also refers to dosage amounts of a medication taken according to a particular schedule. Thus, the term "modifying a medication regimen" may include changing a schedule for taking a medication and/or changing a dosage amount of a medication. With respect to tests for monitoring the efficacy of medication in disease therapy, the term "regimen" is intended to be synonymous with a schedule for taking a test. Thus, the term "modifying a test regimen" may include changing a schedule for administering a test.

Patients are responsible for recording data within their PPMs and transmitting the data to a PAC server on a regular basis. Preferably, transmission of data to a PAC server is highly automated and substantially "hands-off" for a patient. A patient preferably can plug a PPM into a standard telephone jack and, with the press of a button, establish communications with a PAC server. Each PPM may have the ability to prompt patients when data transmissions are required, and to initiate and complete data transmissions using an alarm-driven timer.

Preferably, each PPM contains a user interface for displaying text, graphics, prompts and various other information. A PPM user interface serves as the primary means of communication between the PAC

server and the patient. A PPM may also be configured to notify patients of transmission schedules to the PAC server; to notify patients having emergency medical conditions to promptly seek medical attention; and to  
5 provide motivational feedback to patients based upon past performance (e.g., reward patients for keeping on schedule with data recordings and transmissions of data to a PAC server).

Referring now to Fig. 2, an exemplary PPM 20  
10 is illustrated. The illustrated PPM 20 includes a display 22 and a keyboard 24. The PPM 20 also preferably includes the following which are not shown: internal, non-volatile data storage, internally stored medication monitoring software, and a data processor  
15 for performing various functions and for communicating with a PAC server. Internal software (program code) may query a patient for various information via display 22. Preferably, the PPM internal software is menu-driven for ease-of-use by patients. Preferably, the menus are  
20 written in various languages including a children's version incorporating game-like features.

Preferably, all data entered within a PPM 20 is stored with date and time information and can be alarm initiated (i.e., a patient or PPM can be prompted  
25 to perform a task or function). Preferably, the PPM internal software analyzes the entered data and continuously informs the patient of his/her prescribed medication dose. The PPM internal software can calculate adjustments for a patient's medication dosage

according to a physician's prescription as applied to the data entered into the PPM by the patient.

The internal software of a PPM can be configurable by a case manager via a PAC server. A case manager can make adjustments to a patient's medication dose calculations, to a patient's dosage algorithm, and to a patient's fixed or contingent self-monitoring schedules. These adjustments can be made automatically within a PPM during routine data transfer to a PAC server. In addition to providing disease therapy management, a PPM can be used to remind patients to schedule appointments for important examinations.

Preferably, a PPM contains a database of medication interaction information and is configured to allow a patient to query the database for information related to the patient's use of multiple medications. A PPM may be configured to communicate with an external database containing medication interaction information, as well. For example, a patient may query a database located within a PAC server when communications are established between the PPM and the PAC server. A PPM may also be configured to allow a patient to establish communications with other external databases, such as those residing in various legacy systems.

Other features of a PPM which are not illustrated, but which may be included, are PCMCIA slots for connecting a PPM to various peripheral devices; RJ11 connections to land line telephone systems; and infrared ports for communications with peripheral devices. Additional PPM features for

diabetes patients are disclosed in U.S. Patent Number 4,731,726 which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

PPMs, according to the present invention, are not limited to land line telephone communications with a PAC server. PPMs may communicate with a PAC server using various communications technologies, without limitation. For example, a PPM may incorporate wireless communications technology for communicating with a PAC server. A PPM may also incorporate direct satellite communications technology for communicating with a PAC server.

#### Physician Access Center Server

Data entered into a PPM (12 of Fig. 1) by a patient is transferred to a central data processing system 14 (referred to hereinafter as a PAC server) via a telephone and modem. It is understood that a PAC server 14 may be one or more data processing devices arranged in a network. Preferably, a direct communications connection is established between a PPM 12 and a PAC server 14. Alternatively, an indirect communications connection may be established between a PPM 12 and the PAC server 14 via the Internet or other network. A communications server is preferably utilized to handle inbound and outbound communications between a PPM 12 and the PAC server 14, as would be understood by those skilled in the art of client-server communications. The term PAC server, as used herein, includes databases for storing and manipulating patient

data as well as other server functions including, but not limited to web servers, application servers, e-mail servers, fax servers, AVM servers, and the like. A particularly preferred PAC server utilizes an Intel  
5 based processor running Windows NT Server 4.0 as its operating system. Preferably, a PAC server 14 is configured to handle more than 250,000 patients with at least 500 concurrent client connections. However, a PAC server 14 may be implemented using other processors and  
10 via other computing devices, including, but not limited to, mainframe computing systems and mini-computers.

A PAC server 14 analyzes and stores data transmitted from each patient PPM 12. This data is made available to authorized case managers who can access  
15 the data via a CCM 16 in TCP communication with a PAC server 14 via the Internet. In particular, a PAC server 14 identifies and prioritizes patient medical problems using the data transmitted from the patient PPMs 12. This allows case managers to focus their attention  
20 first on patients with significant medical problems.

Preferably, a PAC server 14 performs real-time analysis on data as it is being transmitted from a PPM to identify medical emergency situations that require immediate attention. If such a medical  
25 emergency is identified, a patient can be immediately notified via communications from a PAC server 14 to a PPM 12, without the intervention of a case manager. Alternatively, a case manager can be notified and the patient contacted directly via phone, e-mail, fax, or  
30 other modes of communication.

A PAC server 14 performs various other functions including allowing case managers to change the treatment program for patients, such as medication dosage, when a patient downloads data to a PAC server.

5 14. In addition, a PAC server may include a "tickler system" for reminding case managers to verify that communications with patients have occurred and for verifying that medical conditions requiring medical attention have been resolved. A PAC server may also be

10 configured to track patient medication supply usage automatically (e.g., warfarin, lancets, and syringes) and this information may be used to provide just-in-time delivery of replacement medications and supplies to a patient. A PAC server may be configured to

15 communicate with manufacturers and distributors of medical supplies utilized by patients. By monitoring patient usage of supplies, orders can be placed with manufacturers and distributors directly via a PAC server such that medical supplies can be delivered to

20 patients.

A separate warehouse database may be added to a PAC server 14 to support complex analysis of patient data, and may also be used to review prescriptive changes made to a patient's medical regimens and

25 medication dosages.

#### Case Manager Clients

As illustrated in Fig. 1, case managers access a PAC server 14 via a case manager client (CMC)

30 16 connected to the same network. The CMC 16 preferably



communicates with a PAC server 14 using TCP/IP protocol over an Internet connection between the CMC and the PAC server. Data encryption may be utilized and other security methods may be implemented to transfer  
5 information between a PPM and PAC server and between a CMC and the PAC server or a PPM.

Exemplary devices which may serve as CMCs 16 for purposes of the present invention may include, but are not limited to, desktop computers and portable  
10 computing devices, such as personal digital assistants (PDAs). A CMC 16 preferably includes a central processing unit, a display, a pointing device, a keyboard, access to persistent data storage, and an Internet connection for connecting to the Internet 17.  
15 An Internet connection may be made via a modem connected to traditional phone lines, an ISDN link, a T1 link, a T3 link, via cable television, via an ethernet network, and the like. An Internet connection may be made via a third party, such as an "Internet  
20 Service Provider" ("ISP").

An Internet connection may be made either by a direct connection of a CMC to the Internet or indirectly via another device connected to the Internet. In the latter case, a CMC is typically  
25 connected to this device via a local or wide area network (LAN or WAN). Preferably, data transfer rates between a CMC and a PAC server are equal to, or greater than, fourteen thousand four hundred baud (14,400 baud). However, lower data transfer rates may be  
30 utilized.

Preferably, a CMC 16 has an Intel® 80486 processor (or equivalent) with at least eight megabytes (8 MB) of RAM, and at least five megabytes (5 MB) of persistent computer storage for caching. Even more  
5 preferable is an Intel® Pentium® processor (or equivalent). However, it is to be understood that various processors may be utilized to carry out the present invention without being limited to those  
10 enumerated herein. Although a color display is preferable, a black and white display or standard broadcast or cable television monitor may be used. A CMC 16, if an IBM®, or IBM-compatible personal computer, preferably utilizes either a Windows®3.1, Windows 95®, Windows NT®, Unix®, or OS/2® operating  
15 system. However, it is to be understood that a terminal not having computational capability, such as an IBM® 3270 terminal or a network computer (NC), or having limited computational capability, such as a network PC (Net PC) may be utilized in accordance with an  
20 embodiment of the present invention for accessing the Internet in a client capacity.

Herein, the term "Internet" shall incorporate the term "computer network" and "communications network" such as an "Intranet", and any references to  
25 accessing the Internet shall be understood to mean accessing a hardwired computer network as well. Herein, the terms "computer network" and "communications network" shall incorporate publicly accessible computer networks and private computer networks, and shall be  
30 understood to support modem dial-up connections.

A case manager accesses a PAC server 14 via a CMC 16 to review the medical conditions of multiple patients. Case managers preferably are able to review, via information downloaded from a PAC server 14, all patient activity and data for their assigned patients including data transmission history, symptom reports, prescription review, analysis and adjustment. A CMC 16 allows a case manager to review patient data in various formats, including a hierarchical, problem-oriented format wherein patients with medical conditions requiring immediate attention are presented foremost. A CMC 16 may also allow a case manager to add, edit, and delete certain patient data stored in a PAC server 14. A CMC 16 also can interface directly with each PPM 12 to provide a patient with information and to modify illness-specific software contained therein. For example, a warfarin or other anticoagulation dosage algorithm contained within the internal software of a particular patient's PPM can be modified remotely by a case manager via a CMC 16.

#### System Security

Access to a system for monitoring, diagnosing, and treating medical conditions of remotely located patients with various chronic illnesses, according to the present invention, may be controlled using logon security which provides case managers and other users with certain circumscribed privileges to examine and/or edit data. These rights can limit certain users ability to examine confidential clinical

health data, and may also be employed to limit the ability to edit any clinical data or make changes to specific fields in a patient's medication dosages or dosage adjustment algorithm. Similar access control may  
5 be applied to the data, at various levels, which define patients' medical conditions and their associated priorities and pre-emptive relationships.

Flexible configuration and associated security may be an element of a system for monitoring,  
10 diagnosing, and treating medical conditions of remotely located patients, according to the present invention, that permeates many of the subsystems. Default values and classifications for many values may be provided at the system level. Default values may be modified in a  
15 hierarchical manner, and may be controlled in part by access rights of a user, to a permit uniqueness at various levels.

#### Operations

20 Referring now to Fig. 3, operations for monitoring, identifying, prioritizing and treating medical conditions of patients with chronic illnesses, according to the present invention, are schematically illustrated. Patient data are obtained by a PAC server  
25 from a PPM (Block 100). A PAC server analyzes the obtained data to identify patients with medical conditions requiring treatment or some type of medical attention (Block 200). A PAC server prioritizes the identified patient conditions according to medical  
30 severity (Block 300). A PAC server displays to a case

manager (or other user), via a client in communication with the PAC server, a selectable list of patients with identified medical conditions arranged in priority order (Block 400). A PAC server provides to a case manager, via a client, options for treating each identified medical condition (Block 500). Physician-prescribed medication dosage algorithms may be implemented based on patient data obtained from a PPM (Block 600). Treatment information may be communicated directly to a patient or to a patient's PPM by a case manager via a client in communication with a central data processing system (Block 700). The operations set forth in Fig. 3 are described in detail below.

#### 15                                   Obtaining Data From PPM

In a preferred embodiment, when a PAC server obtains patient data from a PPM (Block 100), operations schematically illustrated in Fig. 4 may be performed. Preferably, data transmitted to a PAC server is analyzed substantially simultaneously with transmission of the data for the purposes of identifying "emergency" medical conditions requiring immediate medical attention (Block 102). Preferably, this analysis is performed while communications are still established between a PAC server and a PPM transmitting the data. If emergency medical conditions are not identified (Block 104), data obtained from a PPM is stored within a PAC server database for later analysis and retrieval (Block 110).

30                                   If emergency medical conditions are

identified (Block 104), instructions are downloaded to the PPM regarding what actions should be taken by the patient (Block 106). For example, the patient may be instructed to immediately take a specific medication or to immediately seek medical attention. If a medication dosage algorithm is stored in a PAC server, the PAC server may communicate a new medication dose to the PPM, or to the patient via telephone, AVM, e-mail, facsimile transmission, and the like. In addition, changes may also be made to medicine dosage algorithms stored within a PPM or within the PAC server, such that a patient's next dose of medicine is changed in response to the identified emergency medical condition. Furthermore, changes may also be made to a patient's fixed or contingent self-monitoring schedules. The next scheduled time for data transmission from the PPM to the PAC server may be set, based on an identified medical condition's severity, such that higher condition severities result in more frequently scheduled transmissions (Block 108). For example, PPMs for patients with asthma may be reprogrammed to transmit every 12 hours, while PPMs for patients with high blood pressure may be adjusted to transmit every 3 days, while patients with no identified conditions may transmit on a routine schedule such as every week. The data obtained from a PPM is then stored within a PAC server database for later analysis and retrieval (Block 110).

Analyzing Patient Data to Identify Patients With  
Medical Conditions Requiring Medical Attention or  
Treatment

5                   Referring now to Fig. 5, preferred operations  
for analyzing patient data transmitted from a PPM to a  
PAC server to identify medical conditions requiring  
medical attention or treatment are schematically  
illustrated. Initially, operations for identifying  
10   medical conditions from transmitted data (Block 202)  
are performed. Exemplary operations represented by  
Block 202 are schematically illustrated in Fig. 6, and  
are discussed below.

                  Still referring to Fig. 5, if medical  
15   conditions requiring attention are not identified from  
data transmitted from a PPM (Block 250), a  
determination is made whether there are any unresolved  
medical conditions for the patient requiring attention  
or treatment (Block 252). If there are no unresolved  
20   medical conditions, case managers may provide patients  
with positive feedback to reinforce their self-  
monitoring practices and encourage continued compliance  
with the treatment regimen(s) (Block 254).

                  Additionally, patients with chronic diseases must have  
25   regularly scheduled reviews and assessments, with the  
latter performed predominantly in the clinic. Periodic  
comprehensive reviews of the patients can be performed  
and may utilize all available inputs, including the  
most recent month's PPM data. These periodic  
30   assessments may be flexibly scheduled depending upon  
the disease and/or disease state of individual

patients. These reviews provide a structured means by which the case manager may work to optimize care for patients who otherwise are not specifically identified as having medical conditions that require treatment, but who nonetheless can benefit by feedback and further optimization of medication doses, algorithmic methods for adjusting doses, self-monitoring schedule and by coordinating medical assessments and procedure conducted by other medical specialists.

10               If medical conditions are identified (Block 250) from transmitted data from a PPM, or if there are unresolved medical conditions for the patient (Block 252), a determination is made whether a medical condition requires additional patient input (Block 15   256). If patient input is required, the patient is notified by various methods, such as via telephone, e-mail, AVM, facsimile transmission, or via the patient's PPM (Block 258). Preferably, the present invention includes a "tickler" system for monitoring whether a 20   patient provides required input within a specified time period (Block 260). If a patient does not provide required input within a specified time period, the present invention may prompt a case manager to re-notify a patient of required input (Block 258).

25               If input from a patient is not required (Block 256) or if patient input has been received (Block 260), a case manager is provided with various options for resolving one or more medical conditions. A case manager may be presented with an option to contact 30   a patient (Block 262). If a case manager decides to



contact a patient, the present invention facilitates communication via telephone, e-mail, AVM and facsimile transmission (Block 272). A case manager may be presented with an option to adjust a medicine dosage algorithm, a patient's dosage, or a patient's fixed or contingent self-monitoring schedule, either within a patient's PPM or the PAC server (Block 264). If a case manager decides to adjust a medicine dosage algorithm within a patient's PPM, the present invention facilitates this modification through a PAC server the next time communications are established between the PAC server and the patient's PPM (Block 274). A patient may be prompted to establish communications between his/her PPM and a PAC server to receive modifications made by a case manager. Alternatively, if a medicine dosage algorithm resides within a PAC server, a case manager can instruct the PAC server to adjust medicine dosage and transmit this information to the patient.

In addition, a case manager may be presented with an option to schedule a patient for a visit with a health care provider (Block 266) or with an option to seek expert medical input (Block 268). If these options are selected, the present invention facilitates scheduling a patient to visit a health care provider (Block 276) or obtaining input from a medical expert (Block 278). A case manager may decide that no action is required for a particular medical condition and may remove an identified medical condition from an active medical condition list for a particular patient after reviewing available data (Block 270).

Referring now to Fig. 6, exemplary operations performed by a PAC server for identifying medical conditions requiring medical attention or treatment are schematically illustrated. Preferably, these operations are performed by a PAC server immediately after transmission of data from a PPM to the PAC server. For any given chronic disease, there may be relationships between medical conditions that a patient may have. For example, a patient afflicted with thrombosis may exhibit two medical conditions having differing degrees of medical severity. One medical condition may have a high degree of medical severity requiring immediate attention. The other medical condition may have a much lower priority and may not require immediate medical attention. When multiple medical conditions are identified, two or more of these conditions for a given patient may represent problems of a similar type which differ only in severity (as defined by the system implementation). Conditions of lesser severity of the same type may be ignored (if identified) or may not be identified in the first place, if a condition of the same type at a higher priority has already been identified. It is presumed that identification and treatment of the most severe condition identified will obviate the needs to identify or treatment less severe conditions of the same type. Two methods are presented for achieving this aim below.

The present invention facilitates identifying and addressing medical conditions having the highest degree of medical severity first by organizing possible

medical conditions for a given chronic disease into various classifications and by prioritizing medical conditions within each classification. Classification and prioritization within classes are illustrated below with respect to Table 3.

Table 3

CLASS	MEDICAL CONDITION	PRIORITY	SUB_PRIORITY
1	A	1	A
1	A	1	B
1	A	1	D
1	A	1	L
1	A	1	Q
1	B	2	A
1	B	2	D
1	B	2	F
1	B	2	M
1	B	2	Q
1	B	2	Z
1	C	3	A
1	C	3	B
1	C	3	S
1	C	3	U
2	D	1	A
2	D	1	B
2	D	1	C
2	D	1	F
2	E	2	A
2	E	2	C
2	E	2	F
2	F	3	A
2	F	3	D
2	F	3	F
2	F	3	Z
3	G	1	A
3	G	1	B
3	G	1	D
3	H	2	A
3	H	2	B
3	H	2	C
3	H	2	D

The column entitled Sub\_Priority presents medical conditions within each unique combination of class and medical condition (already sorted by priority with a class) in a sorted order that is defined expressly for each combination. That is, sub\_priority provides a means by which the conditions in the list can be further sorted to provide additional information related to urgency. For example, problems related to late data transmissions (all within one class and assigned to have one priority) may be displayed in the order of the most overdue first. Subpriorities for each medical condition will be uniquely defined for that condition. In this example, the column labeled sub\_priority may be conceived of as representing a "priority score" that can be defined for each condition. Other embodiments may utilize different methods to achieve similar means, and the process of prioritization could also be extended to additional levels as needed (i.e., sub-sub-priorities). Use of a single sub\_priority column will support this feature.

Using Table 3, a relationship table may be derived to determine which medical conditions have a higher degree of medical severity than other medical conditions. An exemplary relationship table is illustrated below as Table 4. Conditions may be overridden that are either 1) unrelated but of a lesser priority than those in the first column, or 2) closely related or being of the same "type" and therefore need not be identified and treated since treatment for the most severe form will obviate the need for treatment of

less severe conditions of the same type.

Table 4

Medical Condition	Overrides Medical Condition
A	D and H
B	G
D	H
E	F and G

Referring back to Fig. 6, operations for  
5 identifying medical conditions (Block 202) based upon  
Table 3 and Table 4 above are schematically  
illustrated. Initially a test is performed for medical  
condition A (Block 204). If transmitted data from a PPM  
indicates that a patient has medical condition A (Block  
10 206), then tests for medical conditions D and H (Block  
208 - Block 214) are not performed because medical  
conditions D and H have lower priority than medical  
condition A. If transmitted data from a PPM indicates  
that a patient does not have medical condition A (Block  
15 206), a test for medical condition D is performed  
(Block 208). If transmitted data from a PPM indicates  
that a patient has medical condition D (Block 210),  
then tests for medical condition H (Block 212 - Block  
214) are not performed because medical condition H has  
20 lower priority than medical condition D. If transmitted  
data from a PPM indicates that a patient does not have  
medical condition D (Block 210), a test for medical  
condition H is performed (Block 214).

Whether or not transmitted data from a PPM  
25 indicates that a patient has medical condition H (Block

210) or if a patient has medical condition A (Block 206), a test for medical condition B is performed (Block 216). If transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient has medical condition B (Block 218),  
5 then tests for medical condition H (Block 220 - Block 222) are not performed because medical condition H has lower priority than medical condition B. If transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient does not have medical condition B (Block 218), a test for medical  
10 condition H is performed (Block 220).

Whether or not transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient has medical condition H (Block 222) or if a patient has medical condition B (Block 218), a test for medical condition C is performed  
15 (Block 224). Whether or not transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient has medical condition C (Block 226), a test for medical condition E is performed (Block 228).

If transmitted data from a PPM indicates that  
20 a patient has medical condition E (Block 230), then tests for medical conditions F and G (Block 232 - Block 238) are not performed because medical conditions F and G have lower priority than medical condition E. If  
25 transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient does not have medical condition E (Block 230), a test for medical condition F is performed (Block 232). If transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient has medical condition F (Block 234), then tests for medical condition G (Block 236 - Block 238) are not  
30 performed because medical condition G has lower

priority than medical condition F. If transmitted data from a PPM indicates that a patient does not have medical condition F (Block 234), a test for medical condition G is performed (Block 238). All medical  
5 conditions identified are then stored within a PAC server (Block 240).

It should be further noted that the definition and specification of these medical conditions and their associated priorities, and of the  
10 relationship between conditions where the treatment and identification of lower priority condition may be superceded by those of higher priority is configurable. The problem definitions may be configured in part to reflect individual patient differences by adjustment of  
15 the default physiologic or behavioral parameters which will trigger the identification of a given problems. Where default values for identification are utilized, patient parameters are inherited from the doctor, and these may in turn be inherited from other, higher  
20 levels within the system.

#### Prioritizing Identified Patient Medical Conditions

According to a preferred embodiment of the present invention, identified patient medical  
25 conditions are prioritized based on a hierarchy of medical severity. In general, three classes of medical conditions (Class I, II and III) may be utilized. However, it is to be understood that various numbers and types of classes of medical conditions may be  
30 utilized without departing from the spirit and intent

of the present invention.

Class I medical conditions are those that require immediate attention based on physiologic or behavioral data collected by a PPM. Although identified by a PAC server, many of these conditions may also be identified by a PPM and may result in prompts to the patient to transmit to a PAC server up-to-date data and to follow this up with a telephone call to the case manager or physician. While late transmissions may not necessarily require immediate action, they may be placed in the Class I category for reasons of health safety.

Class II medical conditions may be significant medical conditions, but may not require immediate medical attention or action on the part of a case manager. Class II medical conditions, if not addressed, may develop into Class I medical conditions that do require immediate attention.

Class III medical conditions are defined as suboptimal conditions in which room for patient improvement may be indicated by physiologic and/or behavioral data collected from a patient's PPM. Many Class III medical conditions may relate to poor or inconsistent compliance with a self-monitoring regimen.

Referring now to Fig. 7, operations for prioritizing identified medical conditions according to aspects of the present invention are schematically illustrated. Identified medical conditions are sorted by patient, medical condition, classification, priority and sub-priorities (Block 302). Medical conditions of



lesser severity for each patient within each medical condition classification are eliminated (Block 304).

5                   Displaying Selectable List of Patients With  
                    Identified Problems in Priority Order

                    After all medical conditions have been identified, a list of medical conditions for each patient is normalized to eliminate medical conditions of the same type or of lesser severity. Only the remaining medical conditions for a given patient are available for display in a larger list(s) of medical conditions identified for all patients. Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary user interface 30 wherein a list 31 of medical conditions for a plurality of patients is displayed in priority order. In the illustrated user interface 30, the patient with the highest priority medical condition is listed first. A filter allows a user (case manager) to display various levels of detail of prioritized medical conditions. A box 32 is provided in the illustrated user interface 30 that allows a case manager to select the level of displayed detail. In the illustrated user interface, the filter selection in box 32 allows all identified, prioritized medical conditions of all patients to be displayed.

                    A list of prioritized medical conditions appears when a case manager first logs into a PAC server via a CMC. The order of presentation is based on medical condition class. Within each class, medical conditions of different types are sorted by an assigned

priority. Within each separate medical condition the individual cases are optionally sorted by a severity index. This feature may be defined separately for each type of medical condition, and further may reflect settings that are defined for individual patients as necessary or desirable. For example, late transmissions may be sorted by the number of days overdue, and persistent poor control might be sorted by blood pressure which is chronically elevated.

Preferably, medical conditions having the highest medical severity appear at the top of the list. Selection of a patient medical condition, such as by mouse click, results in a change of the user interface to one focused upon the selected patient, as illustrated in Fig. 9. In the illustrated interface user 34 of Fig. 9, all current medical conditions for the selected patient appear on the left side of the user interface 34 in a list format resembling a directory structure, and the right side of the user interface contains current prescriptive and report data. The listing on the left side resembles a directory structure in form and function, whereby selection of a condition by mouse click will expand the list on the left side to reveal available treatment options for the selected condition. On the right side default screens are available in a tabbed format that can be used to modify medication dosages, parameters related to the adjustment of medication in the PPM, and the fixed and contingent self-monitoring schedule. Changes to these parameters can be directly

communicated to the PPM and are summarized in  
documentary form in a Chart Summary Report. This report  
and the changed data can also be used, in part, to  
generate AVM using text to speech technology that  
5 verbally summarizes new treatment instruction for the  
patient. Certain actions or treatment options which may  
appear below current medical conditions identified for  
this patient may cause other user windows and dialog  
boxes to appear, as described below.

10

Providing Options for Treating  
Identified Medical Conditions

The selection of a patient medical condition  
15 in the user interface of Fig. 9 by mouse click may  
result in an expanded list of available actions that  
may be taken for the chosen medical condition. The  
actions displayed may be only those which have been  
associated with the specifically-defined (and  
20 "expanded") medical condition. Selection of an action  
for a given medical condition may provide immediate  
access to user interfaces where dosages or algorithmic  
alterations can be made (if applicable), or may provide  
methods for contacting patients.

25

Communicating Treatment Information to Patient

A variety of specific actions may be  
undertaken which involve or utilize a patient's PPM.  
These may include the adjustment of medication dosage  
30 level or the timing for administration; adjustment of  
the rules or algorithmic parameters which a PPM or PAC

server uses to independently adjust and alter medication dosage (e.g., alteration of the target range for the physiologic function being monitoring); alteration of the patient's self-monitoring schedule; or alteration of the parameters that trigger additional or contingent self-monitoring suggestions in the PPM. In addition to these parameters, a case manager may also select and/or compose messages to be downloaded to a patient's PPM, or transmitted via telephone, AVM, e-mail and facsimile transmission, which are designed to reinforce correct behaviors or alter maladaptive behaviors. A case manager may also compose a message asking a patient to schedule an office visit with a physician, and may also alter a PPM's transmission schedule (which may take affect following the next transmission). Special messages related to scheduling office appointments ask the patient to make an appointment with a named professional and provide his or her phone number. The PPM may query the patient on a daily basis concerning whether the appointment has been made, and then solicit the appointment date for uploading to the PAC. After the appointment date has passed, the PPM can query the patient to ascertain if the appointment was actually kept.

Preferably, screening mechanisms are provided for ensuring that treatment or information provided by a case manager is medically qualified for a particular patient before the treatment or information is communicated to a patient or to a patient's PPM.

Exemplary user interfaces 44a, 44b, 44c for

communicating with a patient, are illustrated in Figs. 10A-10C, respectively. In Fig. 10A, automated voice mail (AVM) messages can be selected and sent to a patient via the box 46. In addition, personal and predefined messages can be created and/or selected via boxes 48a and 48b, respectively, and transmitted directly to a patient's PPM. In Fig. 10B, various written documents can be selected and sent to a patient via the box 47. These notices can be sent via letter, fax, or e-mail, and can be personal or predefined. In Fig. 10C, status of communications with a patient can be monitored using various features illustrated in box 49.

Once a change has been made in any of the above areas which utilize a patient's PPM, a case manager may optionally elevate the new dosage prescription to a high priority. In the present invention this may cause delivery of a voice message to the patient that he or she should immediately initiate communications between the patient's PPM and a PAC server in order to receive a revised treatment regimen, including, but not limited to, modified medication doses, modified dosage algorithm(s), and modified fixed and contingent self-monitoring schedules and parameters. If a case manager elects not to elevate the revised monitoring parameters to a high priority level, the altered parameters may be loaded automatically during the next routine data transmission which is prompted by the patient's PPM according to the last transmission.

To make a newly saved prescription (e.g., modified medication doses, modified dosage algorithm(s), and modified fixed and contingent self-monitoring schedules and parameters) available to a patient, a case manager "publishes" the prescription. Publishing a prescription means that an altered prescription, which may be conveyed to a patient via a PPM, is finalized to a point where it is officially ready to be given to the patient. An exemplary user interface 54 for adjusting a patient's physician-prescribed medicine dosage (one of several options) via a patient's PPM is illustrated in Fig. 11. A case manager may see up to four columns of information representing four daily quadrants in which adjustments may be enabled for drugs like insulin that have a short half-life. In the case of anticoagulation therapy with warfarin, adjustments in medication are likely to be enabled once or twice per week. The adjustment parameters may appear in a quadrant in which the medication dosage being adjusted is assessed.

In cases where case managers have questions concerning a patient's medical condition or prescription, case managers may seek input from medical experts using a user interface such as that illustrated in Fig. 12. Expert input may be obtained at any step in the review and alteration process, and may involve referencing current patient data and unresolved medical conditions (if any) with a request for help. Expert input may be directed to a superior (e.g., a supervising case manager or the primary care

physician), a specialist or to a collateral person involved in the patient's care (e.g., a dietitian, optician, neurologist, hematologist, cardiologist or podiatrist).

5                   In the illustrated user interface 50 (Fig. 12), expert input may be obtained by selecting a health care giver from the box 51. Preferably, various methods of contacting a selected health care giver are available (e.g., telephone, fax, e-mail, office visit, 10 and the like). Contacts with experts may or may not be accompanied by referenced or attached patient data available from the PAC server. Expert input can be directed to people who may not have direct access to the PAC server and be able to directly review patient 15 data (e.g., a podiatrist), but are more typically directed to others with access to the system and are focused on the patients current medical conditions and overall treatment regimen (neurologist, hematologist, endocrinologist or primary care physician). These 20 latter personnel may be expected to provide either advise in written or other form, or may act directly upon (and publish) the overall treatment regimen (medication dosages, dosage adjustment algorithm, or the fixed or contingent self-monitoring schedule) which 25 may be conveyed to the Patient's PPM.

                  In addition to communicating with patients via a PPM, a case manager may communicate with patients in various ways, such as via telephone, e-mail, AVM and facsimile transmission. Preferably, the present 30 invention provides pre-composed text for inclusion in

text-based communications such as letters, faxes and e-mail directed to a patient. Multiple selections can be added to a letter and then edited, or the entire communication can be created manually, and delivery of the text may be done redundantly. Telephone communications may also be managed from a content screen where topic issues can be displayed and optionally highlighted for documentary reasons, and a case manager may elect to immediately make or schedule a patient call, or to schedule voice message delivery of pre-composed or personalized text. Prompting patients to make an overdue transmission of data from his/her PPM to a PAC server may be accomplished using voice message delivery of a pre-composed message. Patient contact options may also be tied to a tickler system to facilitate timely follow-up.

In addition, case managers may utilize the present invention to facilitate and track patient appointments with clinic personnel or other providers involved in health care. An exemplary user interface for this purpose is illustrated in Fig. 13. Once a decision is made to schedule a patient appointment, a system task reminder may be generated that requires periodic follow-up until a record of a scheduled appointment time is input into a PAC server. A case manager may employ a patient's PPM to prompt the patient to make an appointment, and subsequently query the patient for the appointment date once it has been made. Other contact methods may also be employed to prompt a patient to make an appointment and



subsequently to inform the case manager concerning the date (e.g., via e-mail, AVM, telephone, and facsimile transmission). A PPM may also be used to verify appointment compliance.

5                    Preferably, the present invention also tracks appointment compliance (e.g., whether a patient kept his/her appointments). Healthcare providers can be sent communications to confirm whenever an appointment has been kept by a patient and to supply associated lab or  
10 examination data to a PAC server. To track appointment compliance with providers who cannot directly access a PAC server, a case manager may generate correspondence and associated follow-up reminders in order to obtain confirmation and associated clinical data if desired.

15                    According to another aspect of the present invention, a blind actuarial review of changes made to the medication dosages and/or the rules utilized by a PPM to independently adjust these doses may be utilized. Statistical analysis may optionally be  
20 performed on published prescriptions that utilizes pattern analysis, multiple regression, time series and other types of analyses that compare current patient data sets to earlier data and to data of other appropriate patients. This assessment procedure is  
25 designed to screen for potential medical conditions whose probability has markedly increased as a result of the most recent prescriptive changes made to a patient's PPM-supported treatment regimen. A secondary purpose involves alerting a case manager in situations  
30 where changes made to a prescription are unlikely to

result in any significant improvement in a patient's current physiologic condition. In addition, the present invention is also designed to focus a case manager's attention on the areas of a prescription where  
5 intervention is likely to result in the greatest improvement in a patient's medical condition.

When a medical condition has been corrected, it is effectively removed from a patient's active list by use of a "Complete" button. The user interface 58 of  
10 Fig. 14 illustrates a patient's medical condition being removed from the active list. This is graphically illustrated by the addition a check mark in front of the medical condition.

#### 15 Anticoagulation Therapy

According to another embodiment of the present invention, a portable patient monitor (PPM) as described above may serve as a standalone device for monitoring and adjusting patient-administered  
20 medication and testing regimens used in therapy for various diseases. The following describes methods and apparatus for monitoring anticoagulation therapy according to various embodiments of the present invention wherein a warfarin treatment regimen and a  
25 prothrombin time (PT) test regimen are utilized. However, it is understood that therapy for other diseases may be monitored in accordance with the present invention including, but not limited to cancer, seizure disorders, depression, asthma and high blood  
30 pressure.

Anticoagulation therapy typically includes a medication (e.g., warfarin) regimen and a coagulation test regimen, such as a prothrombin time (PT) test (see, TABLE 1 above for other tests), for a patient.

5 Hereinafter, any reference to "PT test" shall mean "coagulation test" and shall include all coagulation tests utilized in anticoagulation therapy.

A PPM, such as the PPM 20 illustrated in Fig. 2, and described in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/042,048, filed on March 13, 1998, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, when utilized to monitor disease therapy in accordance with this embodiment of the present invention is referred to as a CoagCare™ Patient Monitor (CPM). A CPM  
10 may include all the features of a PPM described above and also includes computer code that receives and stores patient data provided by a patient. A Palm Pilot, available from 3Com Corporation, Santa Clara, California, may be provided with various program code  
15 to implement aspects of the present invention.  
20

The term "receives" is intended to include any method of receiving data including, but not limited to, input provided via keyboard or keypad, input provided via cable connection, input provided via  
25 infrared, RF, or other wireless connection, and the like.

Exemplary patient information (data) may include physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological, neuropsychological and  
30 behavioral data. For example, a CPM may be configured

to prompt for and receive data pertaining to hemorrhagic and non-hemorrhagic conditions, signs or symptoms that a patient assesses, has experienced or is experiencing currently. A CPM also may include a medication algorithm that utilizes various patient data to modify warfarin and PT time test regimens in real time. In addition, a CPM may include computer code that communicates modified medication and PT test regimens to a patient. A CPM may also includes computer code that can communicate with a remotely located data processing system, such as a PAC server described above, and that can transmit stored patient data thereto.

A CPM may also include computer code that can prompt a patient to provide information about the patient's compliance with a warfarin regimen and with a PT test regimen during a preceding time period. A CPM also may include computer code that communicates information regarding warfarin dosage to a patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with a warfarin regimen in a preceding time period.

Typically, a patient will interact with a CPM, such as that illustrated in Fig. 2, on a daily basis to assess data, signs, conditions, symptoms, behaviors and compliance with one or more prescribed medication regimens. With respect to anticoagulation therapy, a CPM contains a PT testing schedule that can be individually prescribed via the CPM. The CPM will prompt a patient to perform and store PT test results according to an individualized schedule, and to test in

response to certain signs, conditions, symptoms (data as defined previously) that are evaluated by the CPM. A CPM may be configured to prompt a patient for testing which is contingent upon self-reports of alarming  
5 conditions, signs or symptoms (data) of either a supra-therapeutic and/or sub-therapeutic nature).

A CPM also may include computer code that assesses changes in patient behavior that may affect warfarin therapy on a daily (or other time period)  
10 basis. Changes in a patient's diet, medication, illness, or vitamins are flagged for potential telephone follow-up by a healthcare provider following the patient's next data transmission from the CPM to a remotely located data processing system, such as a PAC  
15 server, which was described in detail above. Patients are prompted by the CPM to indicate any warfarin or other medication dosage additions, changes, discontinuations, or omissions. Vitamin intake by a patient also can be assessed for impact to PT testing.  
20 Patients are also prompted by the CPM to identify any significant dietary changes such as eating more or less than usual, or major changes in dietary composition. Conditions that can affect warfarin therapy, such as illness, vomiting, and diarrhea, can also be assessed  
25 by the CPM.

Referring now to Figs. 15-19, operations for monitoring anticoagulation therapy via a remote and preferably portable patient apparatus (CPM) according to the present invention are illustrated. It is  
30 understood that the present invention may be used for

monitoring therapies for other diseases and conditions including, but not limited to, high blood pressure, depression, seizure disorders, cancer, and asthma. In the illustrated embodiment of Figs. 15-19, the described anticoagulation therapy includes a warfarin medication regimen and a PT test regimen. Wherever the term "warfarin" is used, it is understood that the term "medication" may be substituted therefor.

Referring initially to Fig. 15, a patient undergoing anticoagulation therapy logs onto his/her personal CPM (Block 1100) according to a predefined schedule (for example, a daily schedule). If the CPM determines that information (or data) regarding the patient's warfarin and PT test regimens (or other aspects of the anticoagulation therapy) is missing or insufficient (i.e., that the patient has not entered this information into the CPM during a preceding time period, or has not complied with an established warfarin regimen and/or PT test regimen) (Block 1300), the CPM initiates a procedure for obtaining the missing patient data (Block 1350).

It is understood that missing patient data as described herein with respect to Block 1350 and Fig. 16 is not limited to medication and test results. Missing patient data may also include signs, conditions, symptoms, compliance with exercise regimens, confirmation of injection sites that could affect drug absorption (heparin agents), prompts to calibrate or test calibration of biological or physiological testing equipment, patient apparatus maintenance, and the like.

Referring to Fig. 16, a procedure for obtaining the missing patient data (Block 1350) regarding the warfarin and PT test regimens (or other aspects of the anticoagulation therapy) is illustrated.

5 The CPM prompts the patient to indicate whether the patient took his/her prescribed dosage of warfarin in the preceding time period of interest (Block 1351). If the patient responds "No", the CPM prompts the patient for reasons why the patient did not take the warfarin

10 according to the prescribed regimen and records these reasons (Block 1356). Operations then return to Block 1353.

With respect to Block 1356, a check list is preferably provided via a user interface that allows a

15 patient to indicate reasons (e.g., forgot to take medication, ran out of medication, and the like). If the patient responds "Yes" (Block 1351), the CPM obtains information from the patient about a dose(s) actually taken and updates a dose record(s) for the

20 preceding time period of interest (Block 1352).

The CPM then makes a determination whether a PT test was scheduled for the preceding time period of interest (Block 1353). If the answer is "No", operations return to Block 1400 (Fig. 15). If the

25 answer is "Yes", the CPM prompts the patient whether the PT test was performed (Block 1354). If the CPM determines that the PT test was not performed the CPM prompts the patient for reasons why the PT test was not performed and records these reasons (Block 1357). The

30 patient may also be prompted to perform the PT test at

this time (Block 1357) and to enter the PT test results (Block 1355). If the CPM determines that the patient did perform the PT test (Block 1354), the CPM prompts the patient to enter the test results (Block 1355).

5           A determination is then made whether other data is missing (Block 1358). If the answer is "Yes", the missing data is entered, preferably on a prioritized basis (Block 1359). If the answer is "No", operations then return to Block 1400 (Fig. 15).

10           Referring back to Fig. 15, the CPM prompts the patient as to whether the patient has experienced (or is experiencing) any supra-therapeutic signs, conditions or symptoms (collectively referred to as "data") (Block 1400). As is well known to those of  
15 skill in the art, a supra-therapeutic sign or condition is data which indicates a patient has taken too much of a medication (over-dose). With respect to anticoagulation therapy, hemorrhagic "signs", such as bleeding, bruising, thinning blood, blood in urine or  
20 stool, severe headache, other bleeding, swollen joints, and cuts that will not stop bleeding are exemplary supra-therapeutic data. If the answer at Block 1400 is "Yes", the CPM initiates a procedure for assessing the severity of the supra-therapeutic signs and conditions  
25 (Block 1450).

          Referring to Fig. 17, a procedure for assessing the severity of supra-therapeutic conditions experienced by a patient (Block 1450) is illustrated. The CPM prompts the patient to indicate supra-  
30 therapeutic conditions that the patient is either



experiencing for the first time, or that have worsened  
(Block 1451). A check list is preferably provided via a  
user interface that allows a patient to indicate the  
supra-therapeutic symptoms. The CPM makes a  
5 determination at Block 1452 whether the supra-  
therapeutic conditions indicated by the patient are  
severe and require immediate communication to a  
healthcare provider. If the answer is "Yes",  
information about the supra-therapeutic symptoms is  
10 communicated immediately to a healthcare provider  
(Block 1453) via a communications network. The CPM may  
also instruct the patient to call his/her healthcare  
provider immediately, or to call for emergency medical  
attention (Block 1454). The CPM may be configured to  
15 automatically establish voice communications with a  
healthcare provider or emergency medical service for  
the patient.

If the answer at Block 1452 is "No", the CPM  
determines whether information about the supra-  
20 therapeutic signs or conditions are serious enough to  
require communication to a healthcare provider after  
completing the entry or interaction with the CPM; i.e.,  
transmissions will occur as part of this interactive  
session, as opposed to the preset schedule (Block  
25 1455). If the answer at Block 1455 is "Yes", the CPM  
sets a flag to transmit the supra-therapeutic data to a  
healthcare provider's PAC system immediately following  
or at the conclusion of this entry or interaction with  
the CPM (Block 156). If the answer at Block 1455 is  
30 "No", the CPM then prompts the patient to determine

whether the patient wishes to talk with a healthcare provider about the signs, conditions or symptoms ("data" or anything else that is of concern) (Block 1457). If the answer at Block 1457 is "No", operations are returned to Block 1500 (Fig. 15). If the answer at Block 1457 is "Yes", the CPM sets a flag to transmit supra-therapeutic symptom information to a healthcare provider following entry. (Block 1458). Operations are then returned to Block 1500 (Fig. 15).

Referring back to Fig. 15, the CPM prompts the patient as to whether the patient has undergone any behavioral or non-medication related changes (Block 1500). For example, has the patient changed his/her diet and/or intake of vitamins and/or other medications. Behavioral and non-medication related changes include all signs, symptoms, conditions and behavior (changed or otherwise of concern) that could affect a patient's disease state, and which are not directly attributable to too much medication (supra-therapeutic) or too little medication (sub-therapeutic). According to the present invention, behavioral and non-medication related changes may be divided into those that are serious (thus requiring a call to a healthcare provider immediately) and those that bear watching. Behavioral and non-medication related changes that only bear watching may become significant if they are deemed to alter the patient's medication schedule or schedule for transmitting data to a healthcare provider.

If the answer at Block 1500 is "Yes", the CPM

initiates a procedure for assessing the severity of changes in or presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that are not clearly related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions (Block 1550).

5                   Referring to Fig. 18, a procedure for assessing the severity of changes in or presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that are not clearly related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions (Block 1550) is illustrated. The CPM prompts  
10 the patient to indicate changes in or presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that are not clearly related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions (Block 1551). A check list is preferably provided via a user interface. Exemplary check list  
15 items may include whether a patient has changed vitamins/medications, whether a patient has changed dosages of vitamins/medications, whether a patient has stopped taking vitamins/medications, whether the patient is eating more or less, and whether the patient  
20 is eating different foods.

                  The CPM then determines whether the information provided by the patient regarding changes in or presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that are not clearly related to supra-  
25 therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions requires changing (e.g., accelerating) a testing regimen or an established data transmission schedule (Block 1552). If the answer is "Yes" the patient's testing and/or data transmission schedules are modified (Block 1553) by the  
30 CPM. Operations return to Block 1554.

If the answer at Block 1552 is "No", the CPM determines whether the information provided by the patient regarding changes in or presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that are not clearly  
5 related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions are severe enough to warrant immediate transmission to a healthcare provider (Block 1554). If the answer is "Yes", the information provided by the patient regarding changes in or presence of behavioral  
10 factors or other conditions that are not clearly related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions is immediately transmitted to a healthcare provider (Block 1555). The CPM may then establish a call with a healthcare provider for the patient (Block  
15 1556).

If the answer at Block 1554 is "No", the CPM sets a flag (i.e., a reminder) to send the information provided by the patient regarding changes in or  
presence of behavioral factors or other conditions that  
20 are not clearly related to supra-therapeutic or sub-therapeutic conditions to a healthcare provider according to a regular data transmission schedule (Block 1557). Operations are then returned to Block 1600 (Fig. 15).

Referring back to Fig. 15, the CPM prompts the patient as to whether the patient is experiencing any sub-therapeutic symptoms, signs or conditions  
(Block 1600). If the answer is "Yes", the CPM initiates a procedure for assessing the severity of sub-  
30 therapeutic conditions (Block 1650).

Referring to Fig. 19, a procedure for assessing the severity of sub-therapeutic conditions experienced by a patient (Block 1650) is illustrated. The CPM prompts the patient to indicate supra-  
5 therapeutic signs, conditions or symptoms that the patient is either experiencing for the first time, or that have worsened (Block 1651). As is known to those of skill in the art, sub-therapeutic conditions related to anticoagulation therapy include non-hemorrhagic  
10 signs, symptoms or conditions ("data"), such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and the like. A check list is preferably provided via a user interface that allows a patient to indicate sub-therapeutic data.

The CPM then determines, based on the  
15 provided sub-therapeutic symptom information, whether the patient is at arterial risk (i.e., at risk of arterial clot) (Block 1652). If the answer is "Yes", the CPM prompts the patient to indicate whether he/she is experiencing new signs, symptoms or conditions, such  
20 as muscle weakness, slurred speech, chest pains, and blindness or other vision problems (Block 1653). The CPM then determines, based on the provided information about new signs, symptoms or conditions (data), whether the patient is also at risk for venous conditions  
25 (Block 1654). That is, the CPM determines whether the patient's symptoms or signs may be indicative of a heart attack or stroke. If the answer is "Yes", the CPM prompts the patient to indicate whether he/she is experiencing new venous signs or symptoms such as  
30 swollen or hot arms and/or legs, chest pain, and

shortness of breath (Block 1655).

5       The CPM then determines whether the patient's health data (venous and/or arterial) require immediate medical attention (Block 1656). If the answer is "Yes", the CPM prompts the patient to call a healthcare provider or to call for other emergency medical attention (Block 1657). A CPM may be configured to automatically establish voice communications with a healthcare provider or emergency medical service for  
10       the patient. The existence of serious arterial signs, symptoms or conditions may cause the CPM to inhibit warfarin (and other medication) dosage recommendations until the data have been reviewed by a healthcare provider.

15       If at Block 1656 the CPM determines that the patient's data are such that they do not require immediate medical attention, the CPM then determines whether the data should be reviewed as soon as the CPM entry session is complete (CPM has acquired all data)  
20       but before medication is actually recommended, or whether the entry can be completed with medication recommended—but with the contents of the entry to be logged and screened immediately following the interactive CPM session (Block 1658).

25       If at Block 1658 the answer is "No", the CPM prompts the patient to determine whether the patient wishes to talk with a healthcare provider about any identified or questionable signs, symptoms or conditions (Block 1659). If the answer is "No",  
30       operations are returned to Block 1700 (Fig. 15). If the

answer at Block 1659 is "Yes", the CPM sets a flag to transmit the symptom information to a healthcare provider, either now or at a future time (Block 1660). Operations are then returned to Block 1700 (Fig. 15).

5                   Similarly, if the CPM determines at Block 1658 that the patient's conditions is not serious enough to require immediate medical attention (i.e., the answer is "Yes"), the CPM sets a flag to transmit the symptom information to a healthcare provider,  
10                   either now or at a future time (Block 1660). Operations are then returned to Block 1700 (Fig. 15).

                  Referring back to Fig. 15, the CPM assesses the need for the patient to self-perform PT testing at the present time (Block 1700). With respect to  
15                   anticoagulation therapy, a CPM typically will conclude that testing should be performed if a patient has signs or symptoms of bleeding or clotting, or changes in diet or other medications, illness, vomiting, diarrhea, or if the minimum interval between tests has been  
20                   exceeded. If the CPM determines that testing should be performed, the CPM prompts the patient to perform the PT test and enter the results in the CPM (Block 1750).

                  If the CPM determines that testing need not be performed, the CPM assesses the need to establish a  
25                   call with a healthcare provider at the present time (Block 1800). With respect to anticoagulation therapy, a CPM typically will conclude that a call should be placed to a healthcare provider if a patient has bleeding signs or symptoms, clotting signs or symptoms,  
30                   changes in diet, vitamins or other medications, as well

as if the patient shows signs of illness, or has experienced vomiting and/or diarrhea. If the CPM determines that a call should be placed, the CPM is configured to initiate the call and establish voice communications and/or exchange data with the healthcare provider via a communications network (Block 1850).

5 If the answer at Block 1800 is "No", the CPM assesses the need to adjust the patient's medication dosage (e.g., warfarin for anticoagulation therapy) (Block 1900). If the CPM determines that a patient's medication dosage should be adjusted, an algorithm stored within the CPM is used to modify the medication dosage (Block 1950). The patient is notified of the medication dosage adjustment and is prompted to administer the medication under the modified dosage (Block 1951).

10 The CPM then determines whether the patient's self-testing (e.g., PT test) schedule should be adjusted based on available patient data or prior self-test results (Block 2000). If the answer is "Yes", the patient's self-testing schedule is adjusted (Block 2050). Operations then return to Block 2100). If the answer at Block 2000 is "No", a determination is made whether a routine data transfer is scheduled (Block 2075). If the answer is "Yes", patient information is transmitted to a PAC server according to schedule (Block 2100) as described above.

25 As is well known to those having skill in the art, a warfarin adjusting algorithm relies on a target range for PT test results specified by a healthcare

30



provider. At the start of therapy, the desired PT test target range and patient's current weekly and daily warfarin dosage levels are input, along with parameters that specify how changes in warfarin doses are to be

5     calculated. In the absence of serious symptom reports, deviations in PT test results from the patient's specified target range are corrected by a change in warfarin doses, utilizing physician-prescribed adjustment parameters. Small deviations from the target

10    PT range in previously stable patients are corrected by transient or bolus dosage adjustments. Depending upon the magnitude of the total amount of warfarin that must be added or subtracted from the weekly does, either one- or two-day medication alterations are made.

15    Somewhat larger deviations from the target PT range that are unaccompanied by dangerous symptom reports are corrected by the algorithm using a combination of an immediate change (positive or negative bolus) and a permanent change in the weekly basal dose.

20                Changed weekly doses are spread across days according to a dosing schedule that may result in the different doses being taken on even and odd days of the week. This is desirable because patients cannot be expected to have an indefinite number of different

25    warfarin formulations (pill strengths) available, and it is possible because the half-life of the major ingredient in Warfarin that affects PT is 48 to 72 hours. A CPM transparently calculates dosage changes and divides the total weekly basal dose into a

30    recommended daily dose informed by immediately

available medications. Warfarin pills may be scored and, thus, may be cut in half if necessary. If new dosing requirements cannot be met with an available supply of warfarin, the CPM instructs the patient to transmit a request for another formulation of warfarin to be prescribed.

Computer code within a CPM may be configured to prompt a patient to place the device in a dedicated modem cradle and initiate an IP link on both a scheduled and contingent basis. A CPM can utilize secure socket layer (SSL) internet protocols for two-way communication with a data processing system of a healthcare provider or other third party. A CPM may be uniquely identified during the communications session. Patient home-collected data are automatically uploaded and screened, and any newly available self-monitoring or prescriptive parameters are automatically downloaded to the CPM during the session. Both programmed and personalized messages can also be sent to a patient to enhance compliance with the treatment or self-care regimen.

A CPM according to the present invention may be utilized within a system utilizing a PAC server as described above. PAC server features that support remote management of insulin therapy are well suited for anticoagulation therapy with warfarin, as well as for a wide range of disease therapies. The PAC specification supports automated voice message delivery that can be used to prompt patients to make appointments, return calls or connect their CPM with a

PAC server to obtain an updated warfarin management prescription.

5 Patient data uploaded to a PAC server (Block 2100, Fig. 15) can be screened in real-time for serious data (signs, symptoms or conditions) and individualized deviations from specified physiologic levels. Serious data (signs, symptoms or conditions), when detected, can contingently trigger paging of appropriate medical personnel on an as needed basis. Patient problems can  
10 be hierarchically prioritized by severity, and can contingently trigger software-initiated alarms for immediate review by healthcare professionals. Problems such as failure to transfer data on schedule and poor compliance with taking or recording prescribed warfarin  
15 doses can also be identified. In the absence of problems a PAC server can also schedule semi-automated periodic routine case reviews that document patient progress and can provide supportive feedback delivered using email.

20 The foregoing is illustrative of the present invention and is not to be construed as limiting thereof. Although a few exemplary embodiments of this invention have been described, those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that many modifications are  
25 possible in the exemplary embodiments without materially departing from the novel teachings and advantages of this invention. Accordingly, all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of this invention as defined in the claims.  
30 Therefore, it is to be understood that the foregoing is

illustrative of the present invention and is not to be construed as limited to the specific embodiments disclosed, and that modifications to the disclosed embodiments, as well as other embodiments, are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims. 5 The invention is defined by the following claims, with equivalents of the claims to be included therein.

## THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of monitoring anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen selected from the group consisting of warfarin  
5 and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group  
10 consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time (ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT) test, and thrombin clotting time test, wherein the apparatus is configured to receive and analyze  
15 information regarding patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens, and wherein the apparatus is configured to modify the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens, the method comprising the  
20 following steps performed by a portable apparatus:
  - receiving data from a patient, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and  
25 behavioral data;
  - assessing severity of the received patient data;

prompting the patient to perform a patient-administered coagulation test if the received patient  
30 data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

receiving coagulation test results from the patient-administered test; and

communicating the received coagulation test  
35 results from the patient-administered test to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

2. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

assessing severity of the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered  
5 coagulation test;

modifying the patient-administered medication regimen if the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

10 communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

3. The method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

4. The method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

5. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving from the patient information about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and coagulation test regimens  
5 during a preceding time period.

6. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically communicating the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

7. The method according to Claim 6 wherein the step of automatically communicating the received patient data to a healthcare provider comprises paging the healthcare provider.

8. The method according to Claim 4 further comprising the step of communicating information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the  
5 medication regimen in the preceding time period.

9. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the received patient data comprises at least one of information about hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient and information about non-hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient.

10. An apparatus that monitors anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered

medication regimen selected from the group consisting  
5 of warfarin and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and  
glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and  
a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test  
that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen,  
wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group  
10 consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial  
thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time  
(ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT)  
test, and thrombin clotting time test, comprising:  
a processor;  
15 a user interface in communication with the  
processor;  
computer code executable by the processor  
that receives and stores data from a patient, wherein  
the patient data includes at least one of physiological  
20 data, pathophysiological data, biological data,  
psychological data, neuropsychological data, and  
behavioral data;  
computer code executable by the processor  
that assesses severity of the received patient data;  
25 computer code executable by the processor  
that prompts a patient via the user interface to  
perform a patient-administered coagulation test if the  
received patient data are assessed to be above a  
threshold severity level;  
30 computer code executable by the processor  
that receives and stores coagulation test results from  
the patient-administered coagulation test;  
computer code executable by the processor  
that communicates the received coagulation test results  
35 from the patient-administered coagulation test to a



healthcare provider via a communications network.

11. The apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising:

computer code executable by the processor that assesses severity of the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test;

computer code executable by the processor that modifies the patient-administered medication regimen if the received coagulation test results from the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

12. The apparatus according to Claim 11 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

13. The apparatus according to Claim 11 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

14. The apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores information from a patient about patient compliance with the patient-

- 5 administered medication and coagulation test regimens during a preceding time period.

15. The apparatus according to Claim 10 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

16. The apparatus according to Claim 15 wherein the computer code that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider comprises computer code that sends a paging signal to a healthcare provider.

17. The apparatus according to Claim 13 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to  
5 determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

18. The apparatus according to Claim 10 wherein the received patient data comprises at least one of information about hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient and information about non-hemorrhagic symptoms experienced by the patient.

19. A system that monitors anticoagulation therapy of a patient, wherein the anticoagulation therapy includes a patient-administered medication

regimen selected from the group consisting of warfarin  
5 and vitamin K antagonists, heparin and  
glucosaminoglycans, and direct thrombin inhibitors, and  
a patient-administered regimen for a coagulation test  
that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen,  
wherein the coagulation test is selected from the group  
10 consisting of prothrombin time (PT) test, partial  
thromboplastin time (PTT) test, activated clotting time  
(ACT) test, heparin assays, ecarin clotting time (ECT)  
test, and thrombin clotting time test, wherein the  
system comprises:  
15 a patient apparatus, comprising:  
a processor;  
a user interface in communication with  
the processor;  
computer code executable by the  
20 processor that receives and stores data from  
a patient, wherein the patient data includes  
at least one of physiological data,  
pathophysiological data, biological data,  
psychological data, neuropsychological data,  
25 and behavioral data;  
computer code executable by the  
processor that assesses severity of the  
received patient data;  
computer code executable by the  
30 processor that prompts the patient via the  
user interface to perform a patient-  
administered coagulation test if the received  
patient data are assessed to be above a  
threshold severity level;  
35 computer code executable by the

processor that receives and stores  
coagulation test results from the patient-  
administered coagulation test; and  
computer code executable by the  
40 processor that communicates the received  
coagulation test results from the patient-  
administered coagulation test to a healthcare  
provider via a communications network; and  
a remotely located data processing system  
45 configured to communicate with and receive data from  
the patient apparatus, the remotely located data  
processing system comprising:  
computer code that obtains patient data  
from the patient apparatus;  
50 computer code that analyzes the obtained  
patient data from to identify medical  
conditions of a patient;  
computer code that displays identified  
patient medical conditions for a patient in  
55 selectable, prioritized order according to  
medical severity via a remotely located  
client in communication with the central data  
processing system; and  
computer code that displays treatment  
60 options for treating a selected medical  
condition for a patient.

20. The system according to Claim 19 wherein  
the patient apparatus further comprises:

computer code executable by the processor  
that assesses severity of the received coagulation test  
5 results from the patient-administered coagulation test;

computer code executable by the processor  
that modifies the patient-administered medication  
regimen if the received coagulation test results from  
the patient-administered coagulation test are assessed  
10 to be above a threshold severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor  
that communicates the modified patient-administered  
medication regimen to the patient.

21. The system according to Claim 19 further  
comprising computer code that communicates treatment  
information from the remotely located data processing  
system to the patient apparatus.

22. The system according to Claim 21 wherein  
the computer code that communicates treatment  
information from the remotely located data processing  
system to the patient apparatus comprises computer code  
5 that transmits treatment information via wireless,  
satellite, telephone, e-mail, AVM or facsimile  
transmission.

23. The system according to Claim 22 wherein  
the computer code that communicates treatment  
information from the remotely located data processing  
system to the patient apparatus comprises computer code  
5 that modifies the medication algorithm within the  
patient apparatus.

24. The system according to Claim 19 wherein  
the computer code that obtains patient data from the  
patient apparatus further comprises:

computer code that analyzes data transmitted  
5 from the patient apparatus substantially simultaneously  
with the transmission thereof to the remotely located  
data processing system to identify emergency medical  
conditions requiring immediate medical attention; and  
computer code that automatically communicates  
10 treatment information to the patient apparatus for an  
identified emergency medical condition.

25. The system according to Claim 19 wherein  
the remotely located data processing system further  
comprises:

computer code that monitors patient usage of  
5 medication; and

computer code that orders medication for a  
patient from a supplier of medication.

26. The system according to Claim 19 wherein  
the computer code that displays identified patient  
medical conditions comprises computer code that  
displays selected ones of the identified patient  
5 medical conditions.

27.. The system according to Claim 19 wherein  
the patient apparatus further comprises computer code  
that receives information via the user interface about  
patient compliance with the patient-administered  
5 medication regimen and the patient-administered  
coagulation test regimen during a preceding time  
period.

28. The system according to Claim 19 wherein

the patient apparatus further comprise computer code that communicates information regarding medication dosage to a patient via the user interface in response to determining that a patient did not comply with the patient-administered medication regimen in a preceding time period.

29. A method of monitoring disease therapy of a patient, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, cancer chemotherapy, depression, high blood pressure, seizure disorders, and thrombosis, wherein the disease therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen and a patient-administered regimen for a test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, wherein the apparatus is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and test regimens, and wherein the apparatus is configured to modify the patient-administered medication and test regimens, the method comprising the following steps performed by the apparatus:

receiving data from a patient, wherein the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

assessing severity of the received patient data;

prompting the patient to perform a patient-administered test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level;

receiving test results from the patient-

administered test; and

communicating the received test results from the patient-administered test to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

30. The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the steps of:

assessing severity of the received test results from the patient-administered test;

5       modifying the patient-administered medication regimen if the received test results from the patient-administered test are assessed to be above a threshold severity level; and

10       communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

31. The method according to Claim 30 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

32. The method according to Claim 30 further comprising the step of communicating the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

33. The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the step of receiving from the patient information about patient compliance with the patient-administered medication and test regimens during a  
5 preceding time period.



34. The method according to Claim 29 further comprising the step of automatically communicating the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

35. The method according to Claim 32 further comprising the step of communicating information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to determining that the patient did not comply with the  
5 medication regimen in the preceding time period.

36. The method according to Claim 29 wherein the received patient data further comprises at least one of information about a supra-therapeutic symptom experienced by the patient and information about a sub-therapeutic symptom experienced by the patient.

37. An apparatus that monitors disease therapy of a patient, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of asthma, cancer chemotherapy, depression, high blood pressure, seizure  
5 disorders, and thrombosis, wherein the disease therapy includes a patient-administered medication regimen and a patient-administered regimen for a test that monitors efficacy of the medication regimen, the apparatus comprising:

10                   a processor;  
                  a user interface in communication with the processor;  
                  computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores data from a patient, wherein

15 the patient data includes at least one of physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and behavioral data;

computer code executable by the processor  
20 that assesses severity of the received patient data;

computer code executable by the processor  
that prompts the patient via the user interface to perform a patient-administered test if the received patient data are assessed to be above a threshold  
25 severity level;

computer code executable by the processor  
that receives and stores test results from the patient-administered test; and

computer code executable by the processor  
30 that communicates the received test results from the patient-administered test to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

38. The apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising:

computer code executable by the processor  
that assesses severity of the received test results  
5 from the patient-administered test;

computer code executable by the processor  
that modifies the patient-administered medication regimen if the received test results from the patient-administered test are assessed to be above a threshold  
10 severity level; and

computer code executable by the processor  
that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to the patient.

39. The apparatus according to Claim 38 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a healthcare provider via a communications network.

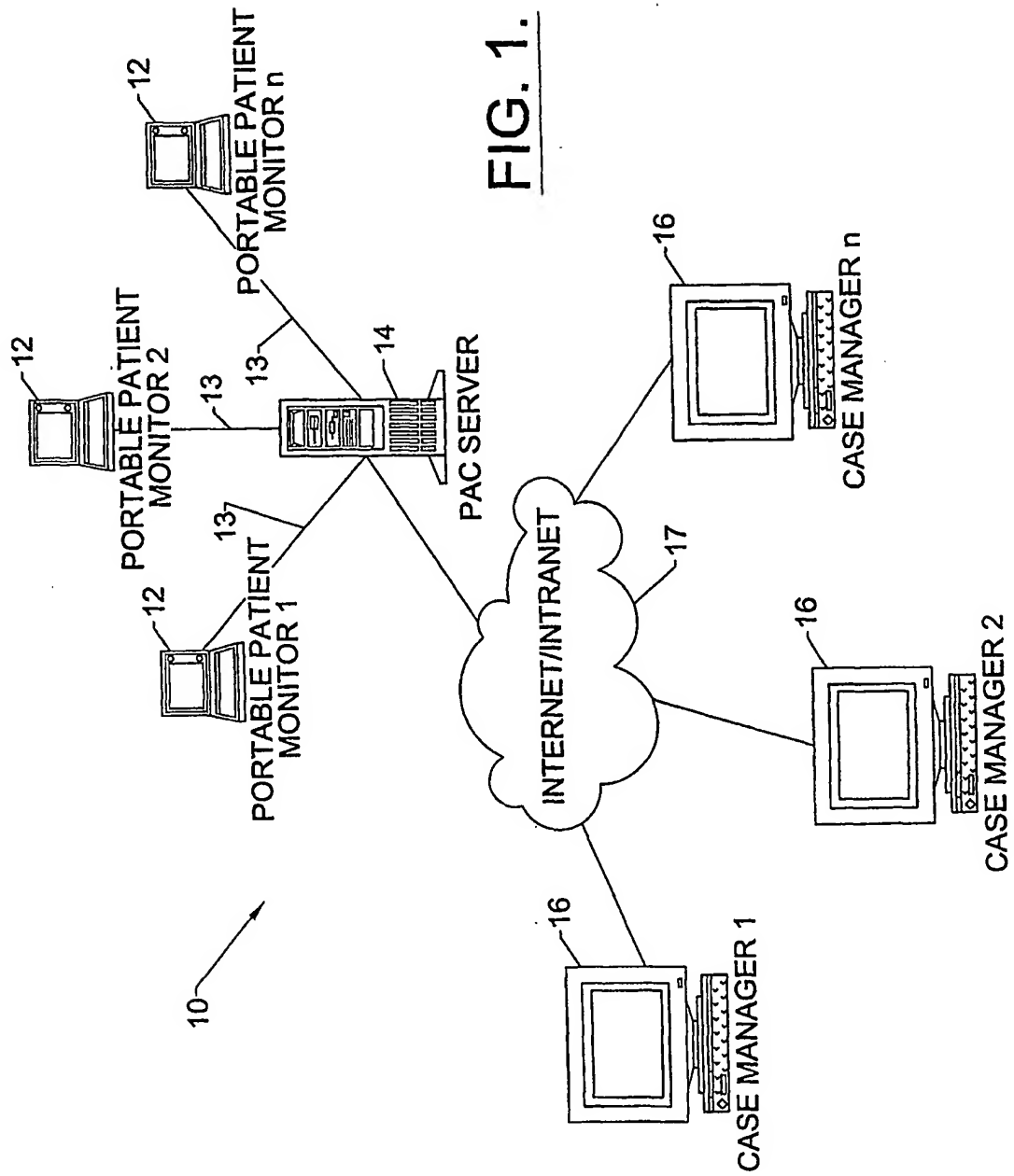
40. The apparatus according to Claim 38 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates the modified patient-administered medication regimen to a remotely located data processing system via a communications network.

41. The apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that receives and stores information provided by the patient about patient compliance with the  
5 patient-administered medication and test regimens during a preceding time period.

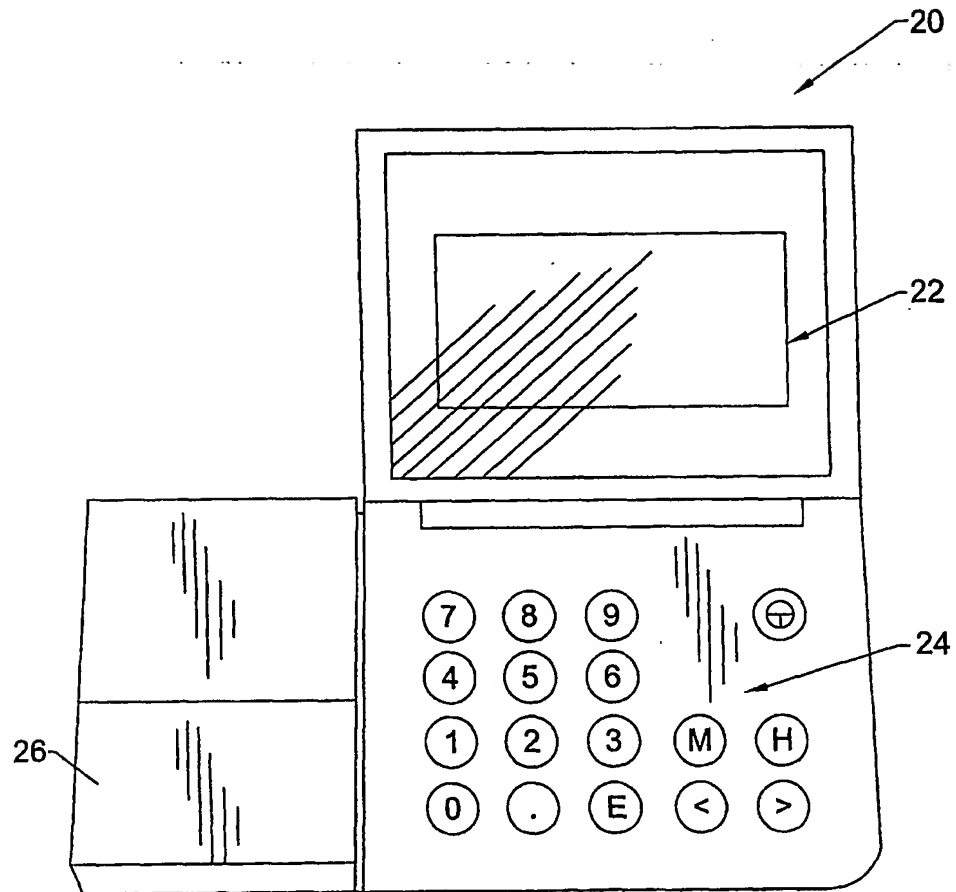
42. The apparatus according to Claim 37 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that automatically communicates the received patient data to a healthcare provider via a  
5 communications network if patient data are assessed to be above a threshold severity level.

43. The apparatus according to Claim 40 further comprising computer code executable by the processor that communicates information regarding medication dosage to the patient in response to  
5 determining that the patient did not comply with the medication regimen in the preceding time period.

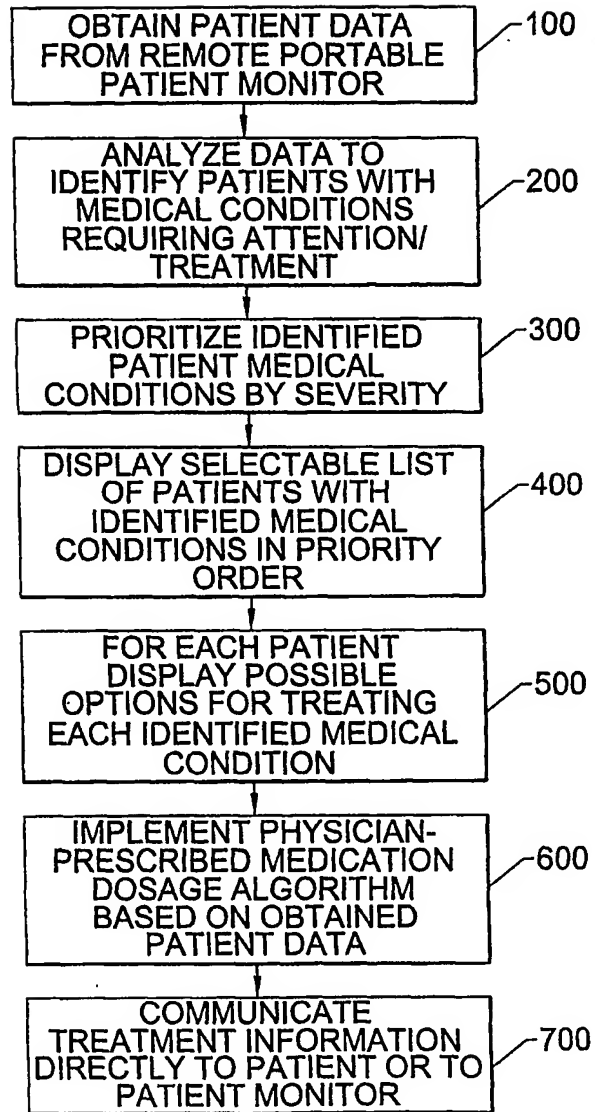
1/22



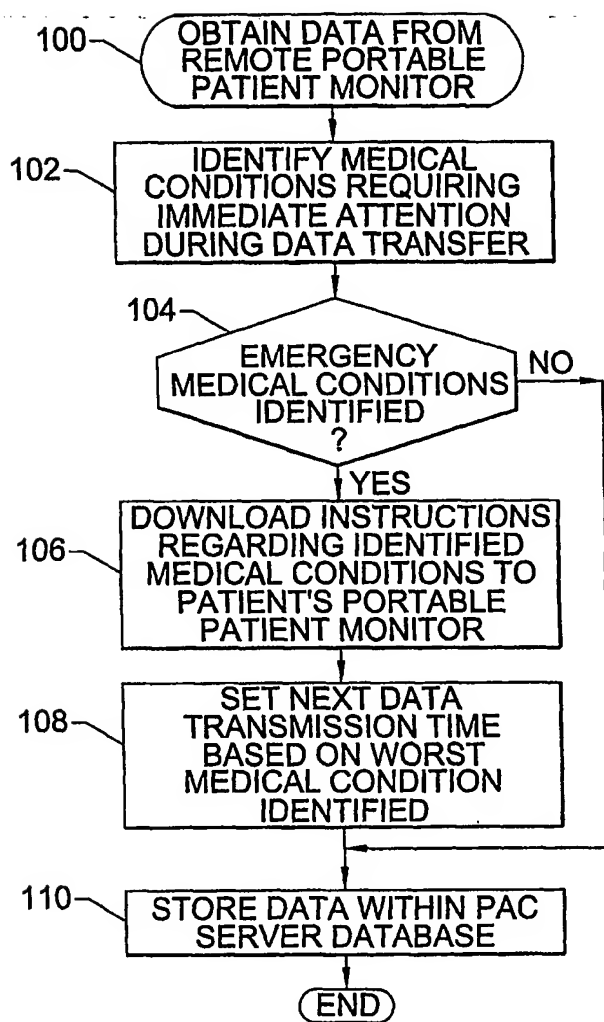
2/22

FIG. 2.

3/22

FIG. 3.

4/22

FIG. 4.

5/22

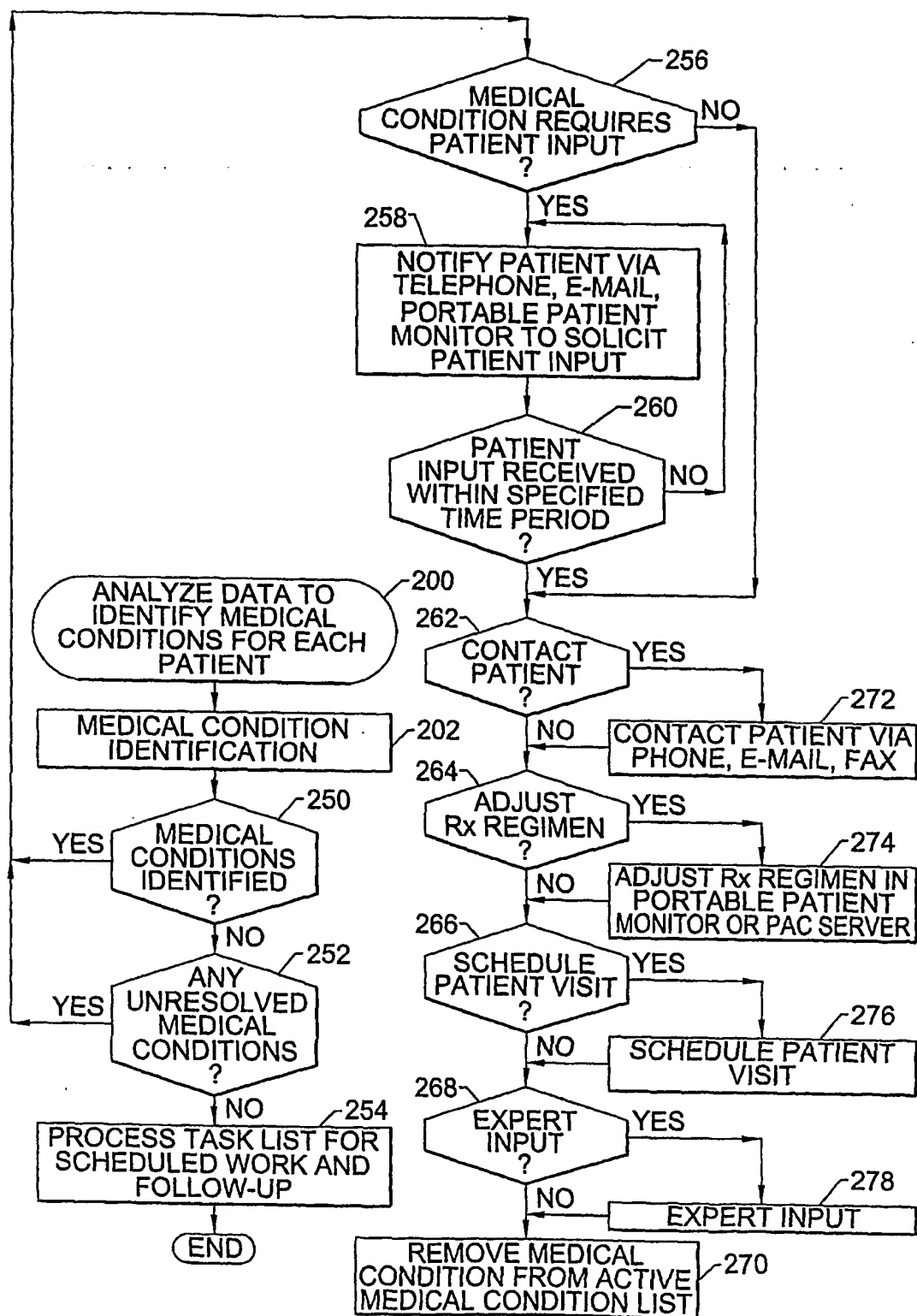


FIG. 5.



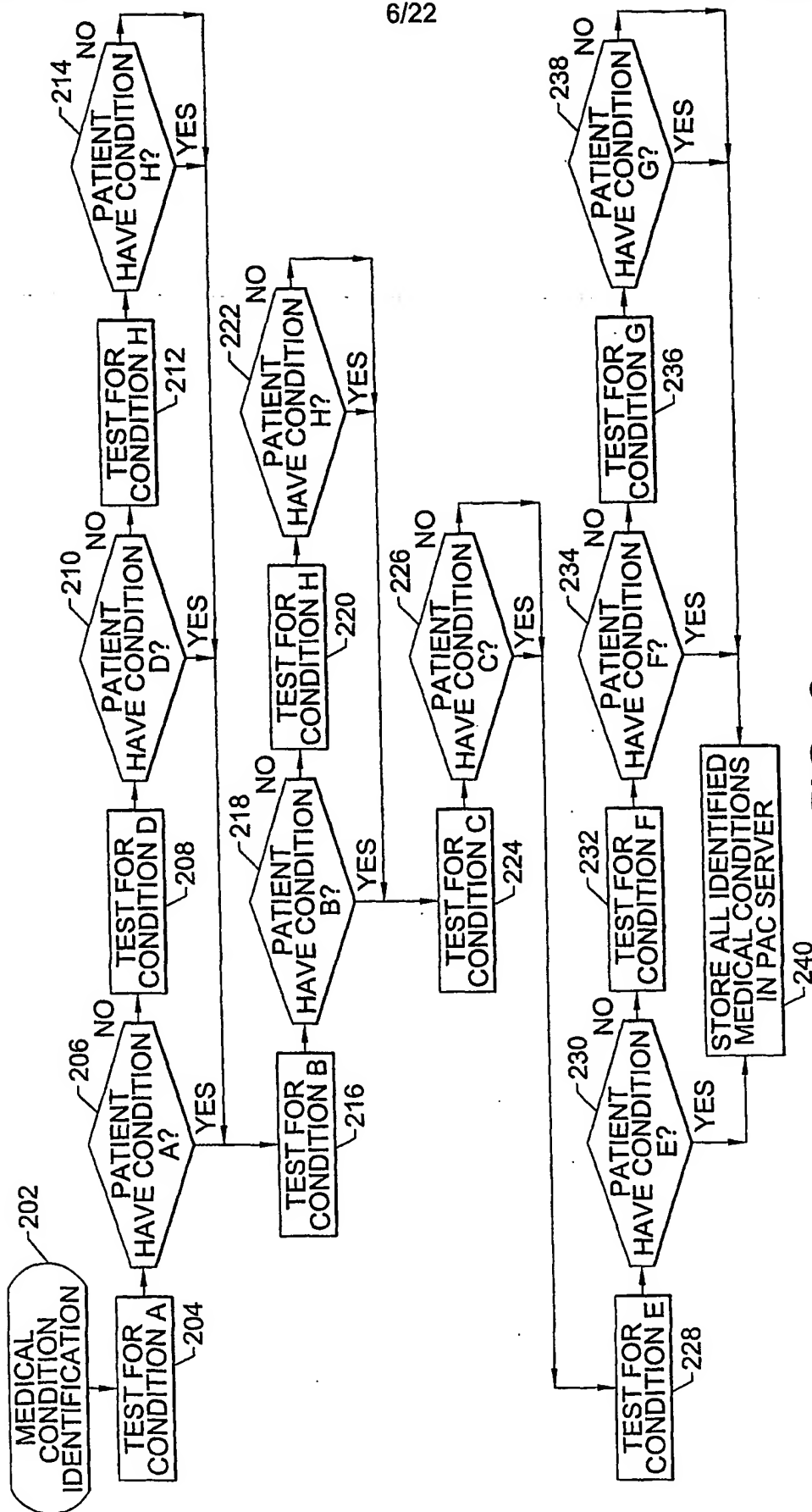
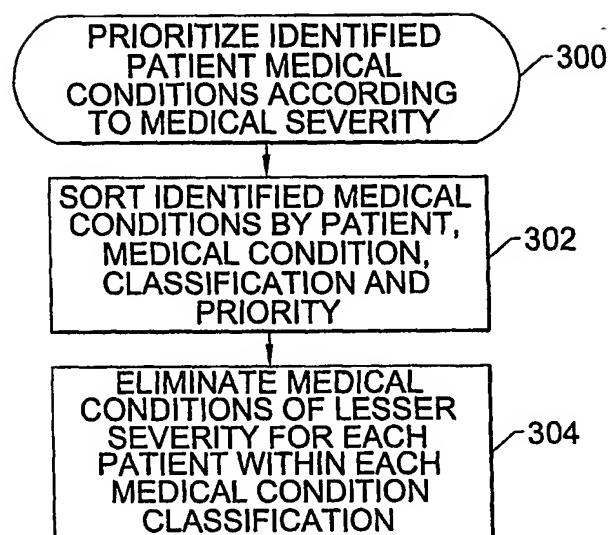


FIG. 6.




7/22

FIG. 7.

8/22

**Diacare Management System**

File Patients Reports Help

1 2 3    Search 32

Patients Problems Tasks Reports

Bilhome, Moe 25 yr. old Male, Type 1-5 yrs, Insulin-5yrs

Show All Problems

Priority	Actions	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Date	Problem Description
1	0	Bilhome	Moe		01/03/1998	Assisted Hypoglycemia
2	0	Broome	Douglas		01/11/1998	HiBG s/Ketones
3	0	Smythe	Kathy		02/14/1997	No Transmit - 7 days late
4	0	Guard	Randy		01/14/1998	Hypoglycemia
5	0	Kruger	Lonny		01/12/1998	HiBG w/o Ketones
6	0	Pole	Rusty		01/02/1998	Variable BG
8	0	Kruger	Lonny		01/12/1998	Periodic Review

Active List

Problem List

30

31

FIG. 8.

9/22

The screenshot displays the Diacare Management System interface. At the top, the title bar reads "Diacare Management System". Below it, the menu bar includes "File", "Patients", "Reports", and "Help". The main window is divided into several sections:

- Left Sidebar:** Contains icons for "Patient's Problems", "Tasks", "Reports", and "Search". Below these are checkboxes for "Save" and "Discard".
- Top Section:** Displays the patient's name "Bilhorne, Moe" and age "25 yr." followed by "old Male, Type 1-5 yrs, Insulin-5yrs".
- Modal Day Chart:** A 3D bar chart showing blood glucose levels over a 24-hour period. The Y-axis represents glucose levels from 0 to 200. The X-axis shows the time of day: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, and Bedtime. The chart shows a peak in glucose levels during the night, reaching approximately 180.
- Bottom Section:** Contains a list of tasks and a "Problem Resolution List". The tasks listed are: "Adjust Rx", "AE Report", "Expert Input", "Patient Visit", and "Contact". The "Problem Resolution List" is currently empty.

Annotations 34, 35, and 36 point to the "Diacare Management System" title bar, the "Problem Resolution List" section, and the "Modal Day Chart" respectively.

FIG. 9.

10/22

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Diicare Management System</span> <span> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </span> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> <div>  Problems         </div> <div>  Tasks         </div> <div>  Reports         </div> <div>  Search         </div> </div>	
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Complete</span> <span>Notes</span> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HiBG w/Ketone</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adjust Rx</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Expert Input</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Patient Visit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Contact</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/12/199</li> </ul> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Post</span> <span>46</span> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Select the type(s) of communication          Automated Voice Mail          High BG warning          Intermittent monitoring warning          Test more often at lunch          Transmit immediately for new prescription       </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Special DCM Messages  <input checked="" type="radio"/> Personal  <input type="radio"/> Predifined          Keep up the good work!          Need to do a better job monitoring at lunch          Persistent high glucoses at late night. Consider increasing exercise          Please make appointment for eye exam          Please stay with transmission schedule          Strips and lancets have been ordered for you       </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> <div>  Problems         </div> <div>  Tasks         </div> <div>  Reports         </div> <div>  Search         </div> </div>	
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Complete</span> <span>Notes</span> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HiBG w/Ketone</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adjust Rx</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Expert Input</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Patient Visit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Contact</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/12/199</li> </ul> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Post</span> <span>46</span> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Select the type(s) of communication          Automated Voice Mail          High BG warning          Intermittent monitoring warning          Test more often at lunch          Transmit immediately for new prescription       </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Special DCM Messages  <input checked="" type="radio"/> Personal  <input type="radio"/> Predifined          Keep up the good work!          Need to do a better job monitoring at lunch          Persistent high glucoses at late night. Consider increasing exercise          Please make appointment for eye exam          Please stay with transmission schedule          Strips and lancets have been ordered for you       </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> <div>  Problems         </div> <div>  Tasks         </div> <div>  Reports         </div> <div>  Search         </div> </div>	
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> <div>  Problems         </div> <div>  Tasks         </div> <div>  Reports         </div> <div>  Search         </div> </div>	
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Complete</span> <span>Notes</span> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HiBG w/Ketone</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adjust Rx</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Expert Input</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/11/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Patient Visit</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Contact</b></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/10/199</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 03/12/199</li> </ul> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Post</span> <span>46</span> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Select the type(s) of communication          Automated Voice Mail          High BG warning          Intermittent monitoring warning          Test more often at lunch          Transmit immediately for new prescription       </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">         Special DCM Messages  <input checked="" type="radio"/> Personal  <input type="radio"/> Predifined          Keep up the good work!          Need to do a better job monitoring at lunch          Persistent high glucoses at late night. Consider increasing exercise          Please make appointment for eye exam          Please stay with transmission schedule          Strips and lancets have been ordered for you       </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> <div>  Problems         </div> <div>  Tasks         </div> <div>  Reports         </div> <div>  Search         </div> </div>	
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Save         </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Discard         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  1 File         </div> <div>  2 Patients         </div> <div>  3 Reports         </div> <div>  4 Help         </div> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>  Patients         </div> </div>	

**FIG. 10A.**

44a-

11/22

<b>Diacare Management System</b>	
File Patients Reports Help	
1 2 3	Search Patients Problems Tasks Reports
White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Save <input type="checkbox"/> Discard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete    Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HiBG w/Ketone</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Adjust Rx</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Expert Input           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>03/11/1999</li> <li>03/11/1999</li> </ul> </li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient Visit</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>03/10/1999</li> <li>03/10/1999</li> <li>03/12/1999</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="margin: 0;">Post</p> <hr/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <p>Written Documents</p> <p>Message Type</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Personal Message</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Predefined Message</p> </div> <div> <p>Contact Options</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Send Now</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Send Later</p> </div> <div> <p>Send by</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-Mail    <input type="checkbox"/> Fax    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter</p> </div> </div> <hr/> <p>Personal</p> <hr/> <p>Predefined Messages</p> <p>Hypoglycemic Precautions</p> <p>Hi BG History</p> <p>Hi BG Test Ketones</p> <p>Variable BG</p> <p>Intermittent Monitoring</p> <p>Not Transmitting</p> <p>Send message in <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2 hours</span></p> </div>
<input type="checkbox"/> Active List  <input type="checkbox"/> Problem List <span style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">White, D.</span>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Phone Call    Automated    <span style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">Documents</span></p> </div>

**FIG. 10B.**

44b-

12/22

<b>Diacare Management System</b>			
File Patients Reports Help			
1 2 3 Patients Problems Tasks Search	White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Save <input type="checkbox"/> Discard			
<b>Complete</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIBG w/Ketone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjust Rx <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expert Input 03/11/199 03/11/199 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patient Visit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact 03/10/199 03/10/199 03/12/199	<div style="float: right; text-align: left;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Post     </div> <div style="clear: both;"></div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"> <p>Home (919) 847-5555     Work (919) 840-5543</p> <p>Phone Call</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>-Call Action-</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Call Now</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Schedule Call</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>-Status-</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Contacted</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Contacted</p> </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p>-Action-</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Left voice mail</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Msg with person</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No answer</p> </div> </div> <p>Schedule call in 2 hours ▾</p> <p>Notes</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; margin-top: 5px;"></div> </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Active List</span> <span>Problem List</span> <span>White D</span> </div>			

FIG. 10C.

44C

49

13/22

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Late Night
Assesments	18u Lente @Dinner Avg. BG 120	5u Semi-Lente @Breakfast Avg. BG 100	12u Lente @Breakfast Avg. BG 130	6u Semi-Lente @Dinner Avg. BG 115
Adjustment Increase if BG above for Consec Days	Enabled 100 3	Enabled 130 3	Enabled 140 3	Enabled 140 3
Decrease if BG below for Consec Days	50 4	55 2	55 2	55 2
Method	Percent ▾	Units ▾	Percent ▾	Units ▾
Amount	10%	1	5%	1

FIG. 11.

54



14/22

The screenshot displays the Diacare Management System interface. At the top is a menu bar with 'File', 'Patients', 'Reports', and 'Help'. Below the menu is a toolbar containing icons for 'Save', 'Discard', 'Complete', 'Notes', and a search icon. The main window shows a patient record for 'White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs'. A list of contacts is shown, with 'Dr. James Michell, MD, CDE' selected. A detailed view of a contact action is displayed, showing 'Call Now' as the action, 'Contacted' as the status, and 'Schedule call in 2 hours' as the schedule. A list of dates (03/11/1999, 03/10/1999, 03/12/1999) is visible at the bottom. A callout box highlights the 'Contacted' status and the 'Schedule call in 2 hours' field.

**FIG. 12.**

50~

15/22

The screenshot displays the Diacare Management System interface. At the top, a menu bar includes 'File', 'Patients', 'Reports', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for patient management. The main window has tabs for 'Complete', 'Notes', and 'Adjust Rx'. The 'Complete' tab is active, showing a list of appointments for a patient named 'White, Doug 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs'. A pop-up window titled 'Patient needs to schedule an appointment' is displayed, containing fields for 'Reason' (Meet with Case Manager), 'Contact' (Dr. James Michell, MD, CDE), 'Within' (1 week), and 'Notes'. A 'Notify Patient' button is also visible. The interface is designed for managing patient appointments and medical data.

FIG. 13.

16/22

**Diacare Management System**

File Patients Reports Help

1 2 3

Patients Problems Tasks Reports Search

Broome, Douglas 7 yr. old Male, Type 1-6 yrs, Insulin-6 yrs

☐ Save ☐ Discard

☐ Complete ☐ Notes

☐ HIRG w/Ketone

☐ Insulin Doses

☐ Supplements

☐ Adjustments

☐ Consult

☐ 02/03/1999

☐ Refer to

☐ Contact

Problem Checklist

First, MI, Last Name Douglas Broome

Sex ☒ M ☐ F DOB 12/16/90 SSN 111-22-3333

Address 8521 SIX FORKS ROAD

City, State, Zip RALEIGH NC 27615

Home Phone (919) 518-0800 Work Phone

CoMorbidity Events

☐ Foot Ulcers ☐ Retinopathy ☐ Stroke ☐ Heart Attack

☐ Neuropathy ☐ Nephropathy ☐ Dialysis ☐ Amputation

☐ Hypoglycemic Unawareness

CoMorbidity Condition

☐ Hypertension ☐ Coronary Artery Disease

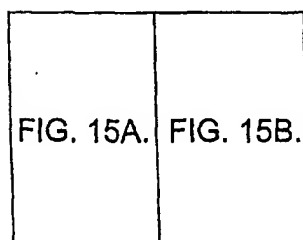
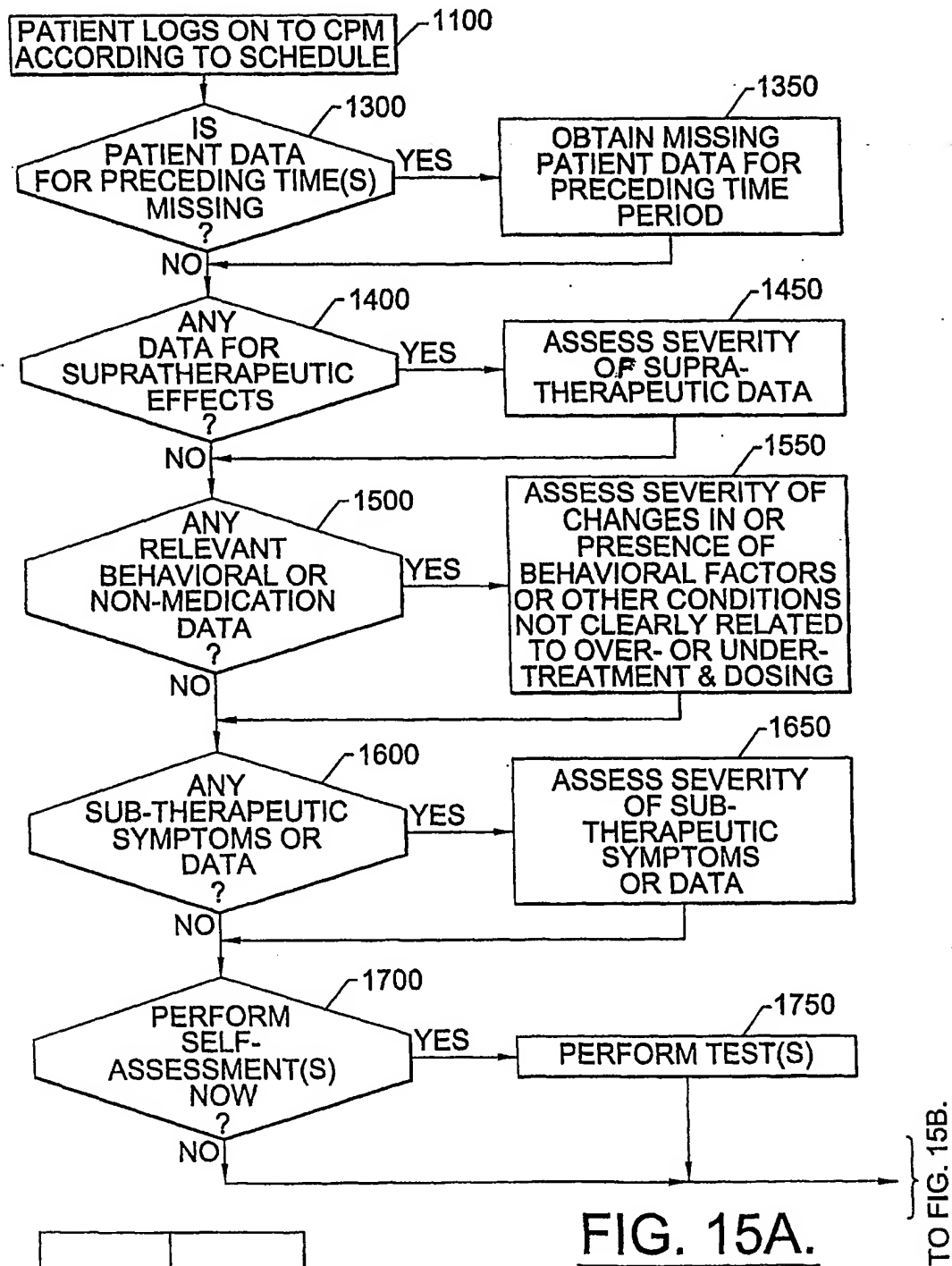
☐ Hyperlipidemia ☐ Obesity (>20% ideal body weight)

Dosages Supplements Adjustments Prescription Demographics

Active List Problem List Broome, D

FIG. 14.

17/22

FIG. 15.

18/22

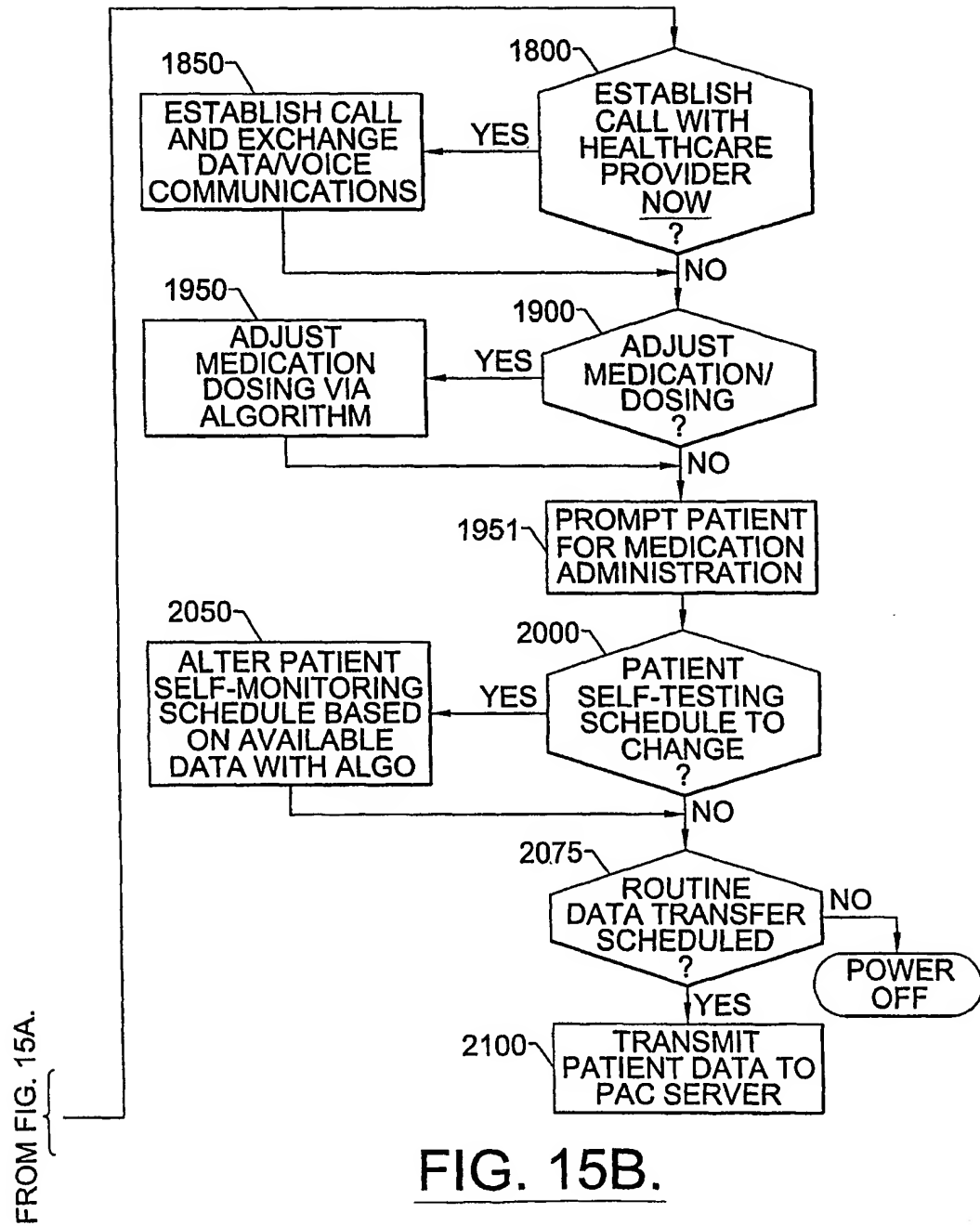


FIG. 15B.

19/22

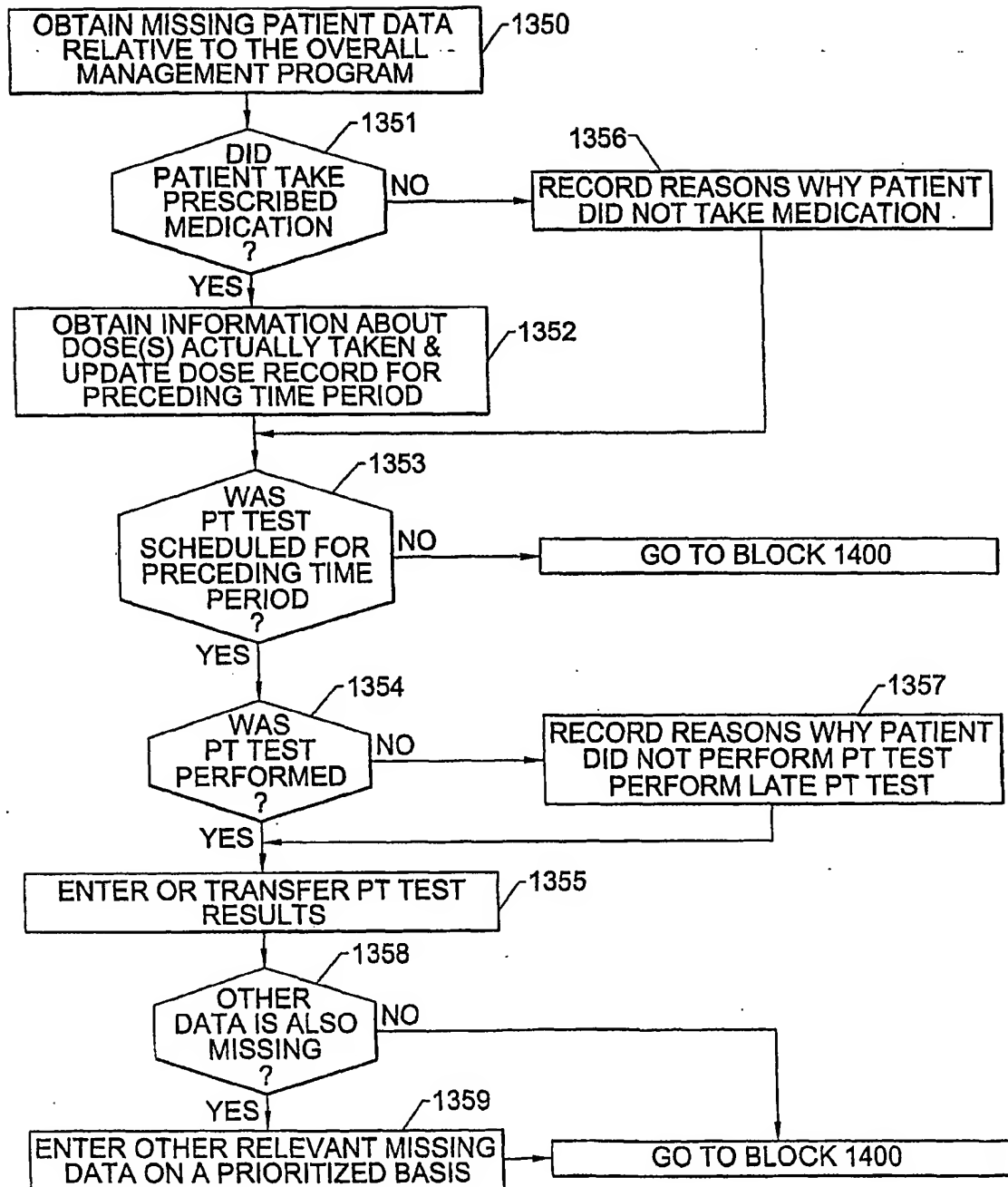


FIG. 16.

20/22

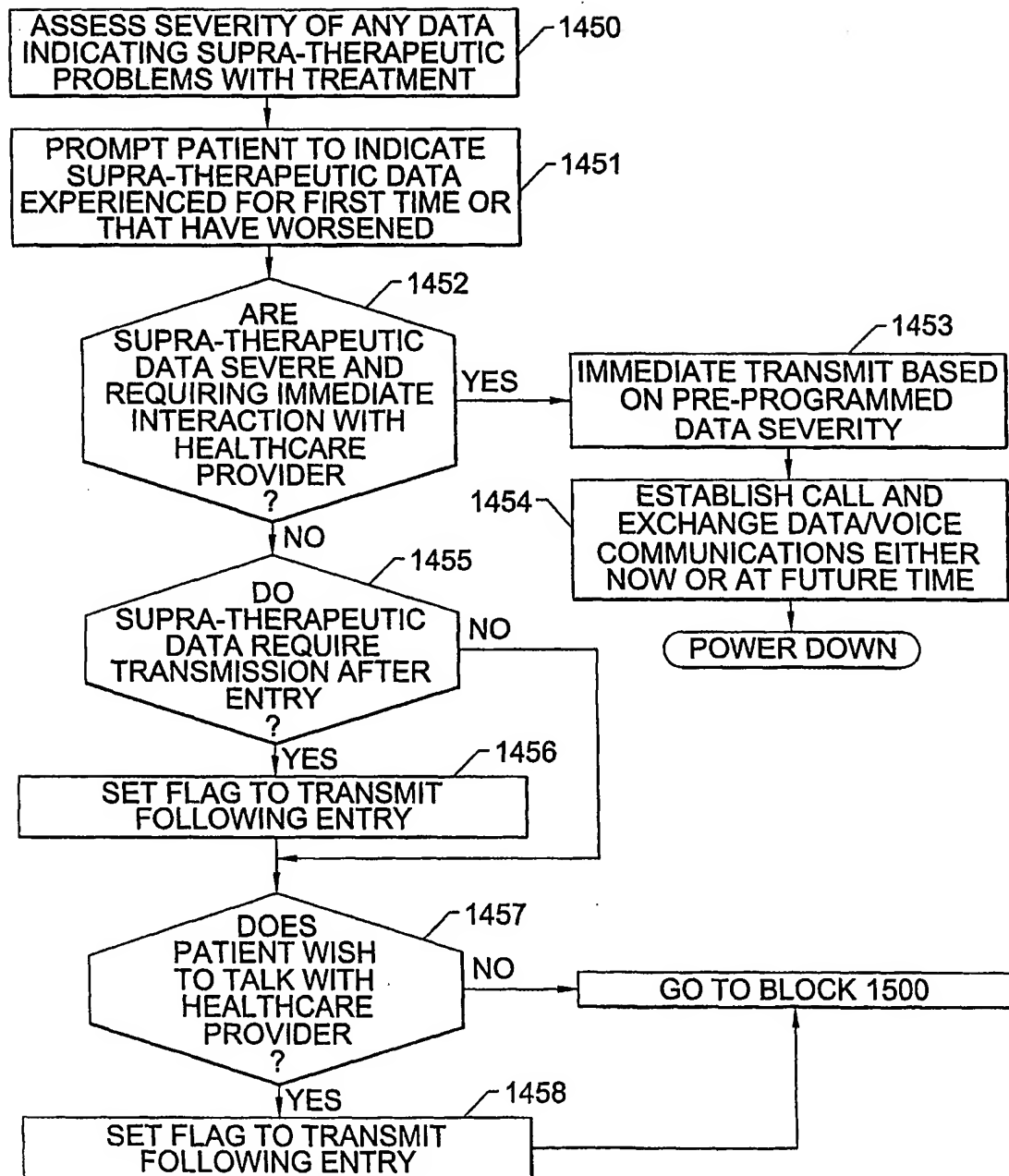


FIG. 17.

21/22

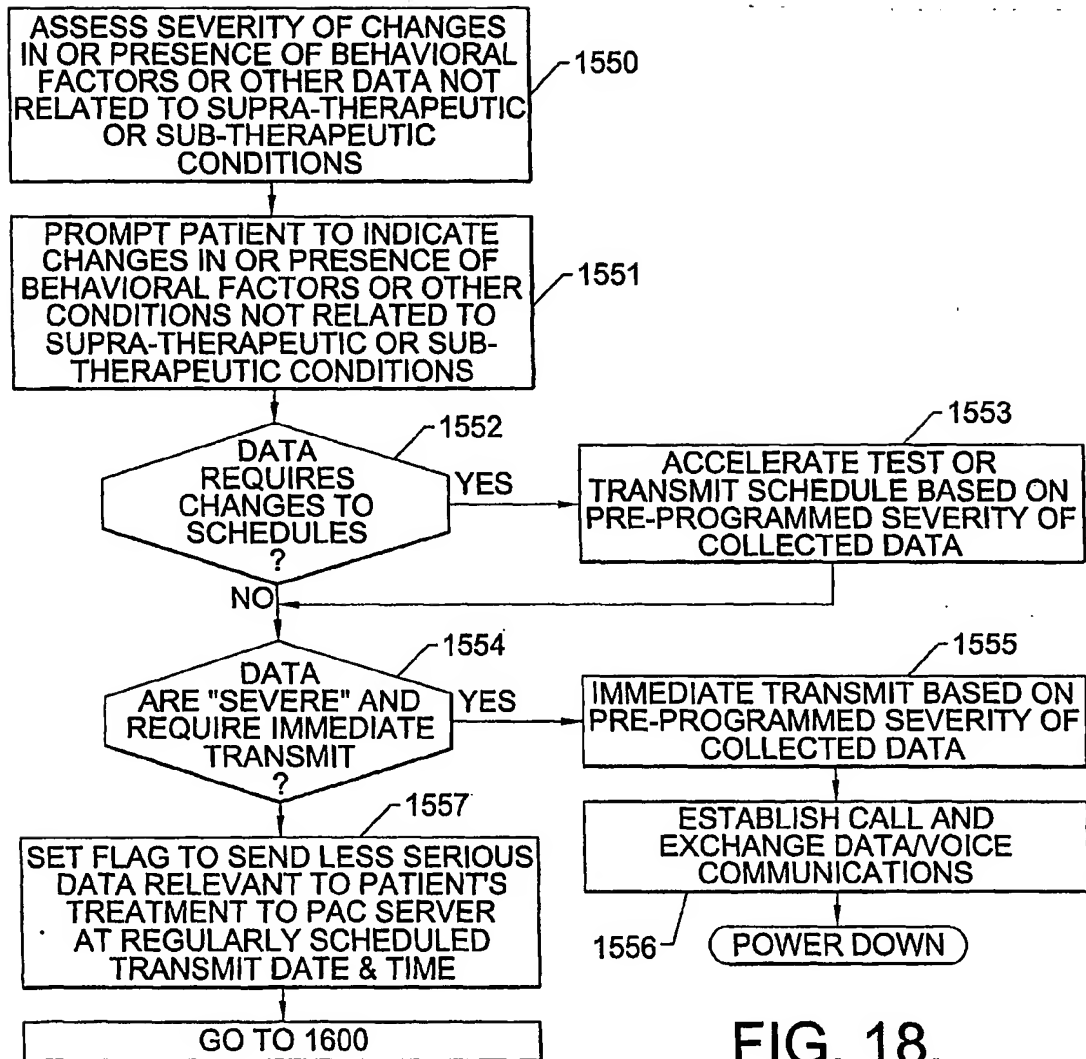
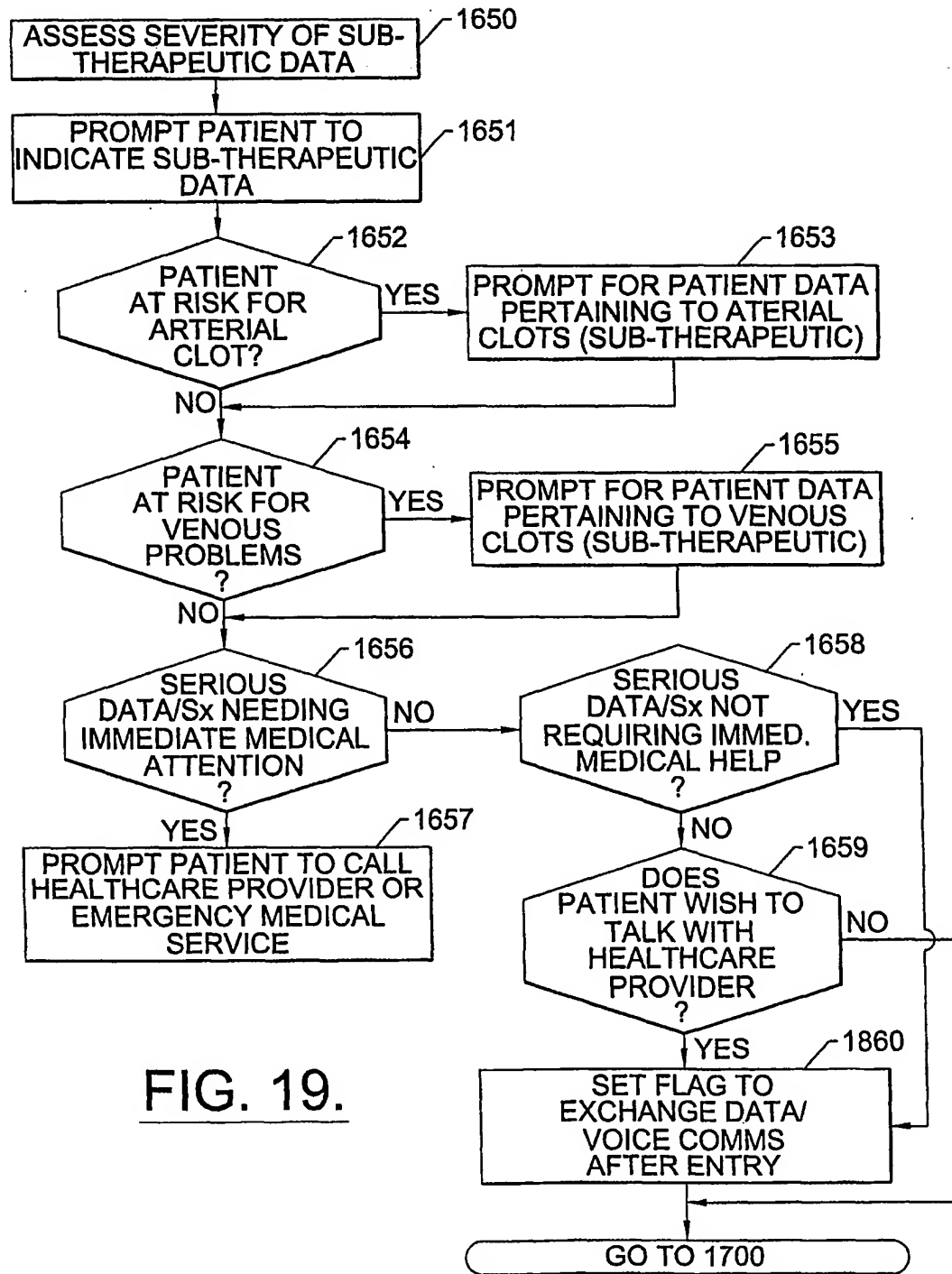


FIG. 18.



22/22



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
19 July 2001 (19.07.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 01/050950 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G06F 19/00**

(US). **MORRIS, James, J.** [US/US]; 3920 Plymouth Road, Durham, NC 27707 (US).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/00789

(74) Agent: **MYERS, BIGEL, SIBLEY & SAJOVEC, P.A.**;  
P.O. Box 37428, Raleigh, NC 27627 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 10 January 2001 (10.01.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
09/480,432 11 January 2000 (11.01.2000) US

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **ZY-CARE, INC.** [US/US]; 3804 Sweeten Creek Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (US).

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

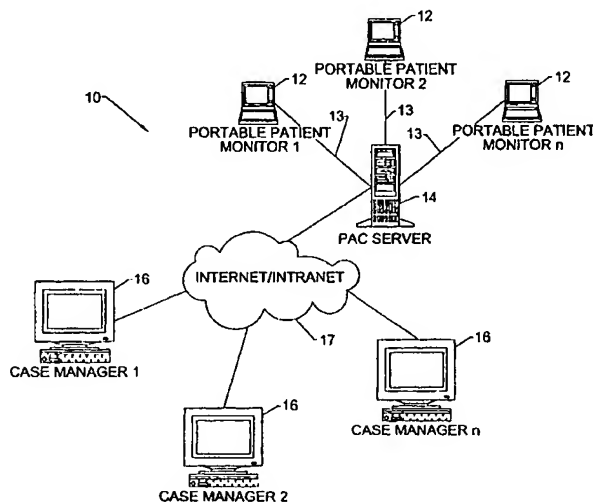
(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **SURWIT, Richard, S.** [US/US]; 3804 Sweeten Creek Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (US). **ALLEN, Lyle, M., III** [US/US]; 3937 Nottaway Road, Durham, NC 27707 (US). **ORTEL, Thomas, Lee** [US/US]; 200 Gattis, #013, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Published:

— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR MONITORING AND MODIFYING ANTICOAGULATION THERAPY OF REMOTELY LOCATED PATIENT'S



(57) Abstract: A patient apparatus is configured to receive and analyze information regarding patient compliance with anticoagulation medication and self-test coagulation regimens related to anticoagulation therapy. In addition, a patient apparatus is configured to receive data from a patient, including physiological data, pathophysiological data, biological data, psychological data, neuropsychological data, and/or behavioral data. Utilizing the received patient data, a patient apparatus can modify a warfarin regimen using an algorithm contained within the apparatus. The apparatus can communicate the modified warfarin regimen to the patient and to third parties, such as remotely located healthcare providers. In addition, the apparatus can prompt a patient when to perform a self-test and can prompt a patient to seek immediate medical attention, or to directly contact medical help, when so warranted.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

WO 01/050950 A3



-- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
1 August 2002

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/US 01/00789

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 G06F19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 868 135 A (KAUFMAN STEPHEN B ET AL) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) column 1, line 29 -column 3, line 30 ---	1,10,19, 29,37
A	WO 98 50873 A (KARP EDWARD W ;CYBERHEALTH INC (US); FINE JONATHAN M (US); WALKER) 12 November 1998 (1998-11-12) abstract page 13, line 1 -page 18, line 2; figure 1 ---	1,10,19, 29,37
A	US 5 933 136 A (BROWN STEPHEN J) 3 August 1999 (1999-08-03) column 1, line 14 -column 2, line 51 column 3, line 35 -column 11, line 67; figures 1-17 --- -/--	1,10,19, 29,37



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 May 2002

Date of mailing of the International search report

05/06/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schenkeis, P

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 01/00789

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 03045 A (DOUGLAS PETER ;DUDIK EVAN (US); EVANS JOHN (US); KRITZER ALAN (US)) 21 January 1999 (1999-01-21) page 1, line 6 -page 3, line 20 ---	1,10,19, 29,37
A	US 4 803 625 A (FU PING W ET AL) 7 February 1989 (1989-02-07) abstract column 1, line 43 -column 3, line 62 -----	1,10,19, 29,37

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No  
 PCT/US 01/00789

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5868135	A	09-02-1999	US 5442728 A	15-08-1995
			US 5142484 A	25-08-1992
			US 4933873 A	12-06-1990
			AT 140326 T	15-07-1996
			AU 622175 B2	02-04-1992
			AU 3459889 A	16-11-1989
			CA 1336842 A1	29-08-1995
			DE 68926801 D1	14-08-1996
			DE 68926801 T2	12-12-1996
			EP 0342859 A2	23-11-1989
			JP 1700087 C	14-10-1992
			JP 2142533 A	31-05-1990
			JP 3067686 B	23-10-1991
WO 9850873	A	12-11-1998	AU 7277498 A	27-11-1998
			EP 0978080 A1	09-02-2000
			WO 9850873 A1	12-11-1998
			US 2001047286 A1	29-11-2001
US 5933136	A	03-08-1999	US 6151586 A	21-11-2000
WO 9903045	A	21-01-1999	US 6039688 A	21-03-2000
			AU 8478398 A	08-02-1999
			EP 0996896 A1	03-05-2000
			JP 2001515233 T	18-09-2001
			WO 9903045 A1	21-01-1999
US 4803625	A	07-02-1989	EP 0251520 A2	07-01-1988
			JP 63079643 A	09-04-1988